



Voters show will to reject phase three

Members voted overwhelmingly to reject phase three of the pay policy and to consider strike action unless the policy was sufficiently flexible to rectify recognized anomalies completely.

The motion, put by the executive, noted "once again with anger the grave injustice done to AUT members in 1975 when the Government withheld cost-of-living increases allowed to all other public sector employees, thereby forcing university teachers to endure the full rigours of pay restrictions on already depressed salary scales".

Debate was heated, and members divided as to whether the pay policy should be linked with the rectification of the anomaly. Piloted by Dr P. F. Tiley, an executive member from Bath University, however, the executive won the day.

They said the AUT had submitted a pay claim for settling the anomaly from August 1, which would involve increases of 15 to 20 per cent. A further claim for cost-of-living increases for 1976-77 would depend on the pay policy, and if the injustice was rectified, the AUT would be prepared to accept the going rate on this.

University teachers were not claiming a back payment, he said. They were not asking for special treatment. The association had always taken a responsible attitude in salary negotiations and had never taken a lead in inflationary claims. In 1973, the AUT had said it would be prepared to accept a further increase in differentials, provided they were treated the same as other professionals.

The Government's attitude to the AUT was that of a nigger seeing an old man coming down the road and saying "that's the one", he said. In the 18-month period prior to the introduction of the pay policy, professional civil servants had received an average 55 per cent increase, polytechnic teachers 65 per cent (and heads of departments 75 per cent) plus lump sums of £2,000. In the same period, university teachers had received a 7 per cent increase plus promises.

They had endured a 10 per cent drop in real income when faced with the full rigours of pay restriction, he said. Professor William Wallace, of the New University of Ulster and a former AUT president, said university teachers had been responsible for years and it was now the time for others to be reasonable. "We have to go very strongly for rectification of the anomaly on the basis that enough is enough".

Summing up, Mr Laurie Sapper, the general secretary, said that the pay policy and the rectification of the anomaly were inseparable.



AUT president Professor David King and his successor-elect Dr Cecil Wells (left).

Brooding pay debate turns militant

While most of Liverpool brooded with anticipation about the cup final last week, the Association of University Teachers' summer council meeting brooded on its pay anomaly and grew militant. Predictably, pay was the hottest issue at the two-day conference, with debate stretching to over two hours.

The 200-odd lecturers, filled with a sense of injustice, threw in the strongest card and threatened to reject phase three of the pay policy with possible strike action unless the anomaly was rectified. Professor David King, in his retiring presidential speech, pointed out that lecturers had now contributed some £120m to cuts in public expenditure in the last two years, about £3,000 to £5,000 each. Pre-emptive criticism, he said, that lecturers were not asking for back payment to cover this loss. The 20 per cent pay rises would merely settle the anomaly and it would be wrong to call the demand inflationary.

Generally, there was an air of anxiety about the shortage of money for universities, and its implications for jobs. The cut in the recurrent grant for next year was estimated at 7 to 8 per cent, and particular concern was expressed about postdoctoral researchers unable to obtain posts. Professor King put a positive interpretation on Mrs Williams's statement that the size of the recurrent grant should not affect the removal of the anomaly; more money would be provided to pay for it.

He also celebrated the value of the university system, which was "in tune with the needs of modern society". It had been nurtured over many generations but could easily be irreparably damaged by Government decisions based on an apparent misconception of the universities' role.

Universities were criticised for concentrating on pure research at the expense of applied, he said. But even if they could be separated, which was doubtful, the path lay with industry for failing to exploit university discoveries. He called on companies to set up their own research laboratories, so they could participate in discoveries and better understand their implications.

Dr Mark Mackell, a geography lecturer at Exeter, said events there had appalled all shades of opinion in universities. People were shocked at the lack of awareness that such information could be collected, and how it could be used or how it could be transmitted from university to university. Obviously such information could be highly prejudicial to career prospects, and Dr Mackell was convinced that university authorities were aware of the extent of the damage that could be done to individuals.

He added, however, that the existence of the information was the result of careless disorganisation, rather than malice. At present, Dr Mackell continued, lecturers had no right of access to such information, although employees of high the army and civil service could see as of right all reports written about them.

Dr Margaret Bondell, from the Institute of Education, London, said this applied to all ranks in the army. They could challenge reports on them and ask for corrections to them.

Dr G. Turner, from East Anglia University, said the Exeter motion brought fresh air into what had been a hazy area. He urged the executive to take up its spirit regarding the efficiency bar, following a point made by Dr P. A. Ongle, from Aston, that there were cases where lecturers had been held at the bar did not concern them.

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Job shortage action demanded

Urgent action to cope with shortage, particularly by structural researchers, was called by delegates.

They supported a motion which called for the effective redeployment of many postdoctoral staff, and observed that past universities have seen a large proportion of lecturers from the country's pool of structural workers.

With the freezing of salaries, young academics were sent with appalling speed to equivalent or redundant jobs. Dr Stephen Banyard, of the University of York, said this particularly affected scientists, because their career structure demanded a doctoral period. "The research Council, in its search for a younger postdoctoral researcher during the same period, did not complete their search because they saw no need for research which could be completed if lecturers were leaving to look over their shoulders."

Other motions passed by the executive to expand the number of short-term appointments and to propose the "policy of appointing only lower end of the lecturer scale."

Cost fears expressed

Fears were expressed whether the universities' grant for 1977-78 would be sufficient to meet necessary living increases.

Professor David King, who has called the "annual cost limit system" "a disaster", said there was a pay policy which would allow a 10 per cent increase of 10 per cent. The limit would not then be 10 per cent, but 20 per cent. Delegates passed a motion requesting the executive to consider a revision of the cost limit hearing in mind that the Government was prepared to meet the position if the price of oil increased significantly.

They also urged the Government to press for comprehensive changes to the cash limit system, which would be used to implement a pay policy in the public sector while leaving universities free to set their own pay levels.

The plight of university administrators during student protests was an important issue at the Conference of University Administrators at Swotest, recently held.

Delegates instructed the NUS/AUT agreement not to condone the disruptive work of its administrative staff by direct student action.

Governors and students plan NELP inquiry

An independent inquiry into the recent dispute between students and management of North East London Polytechnic will start in the next few weeks, Dr George Brosnan, director of the college, confirmed this week.

Following the release last Friday of Mr Andrew Strouthaus, president of the polytechnic's student union, from Pentonville Prison, Dr Brosnan said the inquiry would be set up jointly by governors and students as a matter of urgency.

Mr Strouthaus was released from his own union to abide by a peace formula, and to enter only 13 student union rooms on the college's multi-site campus. He was jailed a fortnight ago for failing to obey an injunction requiring him to keep away from the polytechnic.

The polytechnic management later offered to allow him to return to the college in his capacity as president, provided he agreed to restrict his movements to the union offices. This term of office as president comes to an end on June 30.

A general meeting of students was due to be held at the college on Wednesday. Discussion was expected to include the form of the inquiry and a claim that college identity cards are to be introduced. A polytechnic spokeswoman said the inquiry body was likely to include "independent" members of the students' union and polytechnic management, with a chairman nominated by members. It was expected to report publicly before the end of the academic year in July.

Maths teachers 'must have minimum qualifications'

The Joint Mathematical Council has asked the Department of Education and Science to declare that from 1987 all new mathematics teachers must have minimum qualifications appropriate to the level at which they will teach the subject—and by 1997 all existing mathematics teachers should fulfil these requirements.

The JMC, which represents 15 mathematical bodies, calls its suggested minimum qualifications "modest", but it emphasizes that most teachers do not fulfil them at the present time. The Prime Minister said he agreed that all teachers should have (level) mathematics, when he opened new students' accommodation at University College, Cardiff, last Friday.

"On the curriculum, I welcome the widespread view that all pupils should study mathematics, English and at least one science subject until 16. This should give the vast majority of children every opportunity to be both numerate and literate", said Mr Callaghan.

Yesterday the council issued a detailed schedule of the qualifications it wants the DES to adopt, "on the basis that all teachers of mathematics should have passed both a course on the teaching of mathematics at the appropriate level, and also a course on mathematics at the level at which they are teaching".

Student leader attacks long vacations

Students at conventional universities and polytechnics have no much free time because of their long vacations, Mr Paul Seligman, president of the students' union at the University College, Buckingham, has claimed.

He told the annual general meeting of Buckingham University Ltd that as an experiment in intense studies the university had proved an unqualified success though the elimination of long vacations had strained some students.

Critics of Buckingham were prone to say that the college was for the rich. Many students were from higher income brackets, but their backgrounds were nevertheless diverse, said Mr Seligman. He called for measures to increase this diversification. Students of high academic calibre from state schools should be enabled to attend Buckingham through the provision of more funds for scholarships and bursaries, he said.

The results of the college's experimentation in the breadth of studies were less clear, he said. Buckingham would need to keep under review the weight given to supporting subjects, especially in those areas where students had already had three main subjects, such as law, economics and politics.

Mr Seligman criticized the attitude of some government departments towards the college. They were not recognizing the value of Buckingham's licence and therefore denied students the normal graduate routes into the public services.

He added: "It is absurd that the government of a country of the European Community should deny itself the opportunity of recruiting graduates qualified in Community languages who would appear to be ideally suited for the public services."

The refusal by some government departments to recognize the licence of the University College, Buckingham, was strongly criticized by a joint body of the college's academic and international advisory councils, chaired by Professor Peter Mathias, Chichester Professor of economic history at All Souls College, Oxford.

In a unanimous resolution, earlier this month, the joint body declared itself fully satisfied with the college's academic standards, already awarded for first year examinations by external examiners. They agreed that the equivalence of the college's licence to bachelor's degrees from other institutions was now fully established.

Both the Civil Service Commission and the Ministry of Defence have shown reluctance to discuss the value of the licence, and the Social Science Research Council has refused to offer finance to Buckingham students hoping to go on to postgraduate work. But the Law Society and the Council for Legal Education have recognized the licence as equivalent to traditional degrees.

Cocteau goes on show



Picasso and Stravinsky, a drawing by Jean Cocteau, is one of many documents on show at a major exhibition about the artist opening today at the National Book League, Albemarle Street, London. It includes lithographs, ceramics, tapestries, film stills, letters and drawings and will continue until June 24. It will then go to the Sutherland Arts Centre (July 25-August 13), the National Library of Scotland (August 21-September 10), the Rheocon Gallery, Liverpool (September 17-October 8) and the Birmingham Arts Lab.

Core studies and modules listed in BEC guidelines

The Business Education Council this week issued guidelines, including detailed information on core studies and option modules, to colleges and polytechnics due to offer its courses from September, 1978.

They stress that the new BEC courses have been designed after extensive consultation with business and commercial interests and professional bodies. There has also been close cooperation with the further and higher education system, according to the guidelines.

The booklet, which supplements the council's first policy statement a year ago, maintains that its courses will particularly emphasize the development of skills which will help the employee be a more effective and more satisfied worker. At each level, students will be able to choose a course designed with the particular needs of the public sector, financial sector, distribution industries or general business in mind.

BEC says: "All the courses have been designed principally for the 16 to 21 age group although some older students will also wish to study for them. They are based on a common core of six modules studied by all students on any particular course to which are added two option modules for a certificate and six option modules for a diploma."

For each level of award, the core modules will provide a broad base of general business studies. Specific option modules will frequently be of specific vocational relevance, claims the booklet.

Courses leading to the new BEC awards will replace the existing certificate in office studies, the general certificate in distribution and the national distribution certificate from September 1978. They will also replace the ordinary and higher national diplomas and certificates in business studies and the ordinary national certificate in public administration. In these cases the existing award will run in parallel with the college year 1978-79, but from September, 1979 it is intended that all new enrolments will be to the BEC courses.

The booklet says: "At all levels a defined level of attainment in oral and written competence in clear Jargon-free English and a proficiency in the skills and application of logical and numerical thought. These, together with the BEC certificate or diploma, will form the core of the student's education and will be the employers' point of view essential ingredients in any award education for business."

The BEC general certificate and diploma courses will cater for students aged 16 or over with fewer than five O level or CSE studies or at this level will include communications, human relations, quantitative and accounting methods and business organization in its legal, social and political environment.

The BEC higher national certificates and diplomas, to replace the existing HND and HNC courses, will provide for students with one or more A levels or a BEC national certificate or diploma. They have been designed for students wanting a vocational business education and they will qualify for mandatory grants.

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Lead taken in creative standards policy. The AUT is to take an increasing lead in pressing the Government to adopt a positive and creative policy towards universities and to maintain standards of teaching and research.

New deputy. Mr John Akker, 34, has been appointed deputy general secretary of the AUT from December this year. He succeeds Mr Fred Garside, who is retiring.

Officers for 1977/8. The Association's new officers for 1977/78 are: Dr C. E. Wells (Birmingham), president; Professor A. M. Prichard (Nottingham), senior vice-president; Mr J. E. Reilly (Keele), junior vice-president; Professor David King (Liverpool), vice-president; Dr R. J. Thomas (Newcastle), vice president; Dr T. G. Halsall (Oxford), honorary treasurer; and Dr P. W. Chantoway (Leeds), additional vice-president.

London petition for Commons. The National and Local Government Officers' Association (NALGO) is petitioning for changes in London University's private Bill when it comes before the House of Commons next month.

Surrey graduates find the jobs. The report emphasizes that very few of Surrey's undergraduates are sponsored with a guarantee of employment on graduation. Among postgraduates nearly one third gained their degrees from the college in 1976, 59 per cent had permanent jobs by the end of the year.

First PE professor appointed at Salford. Britain's first professor of physical education is to be Dr Harry Thompson, senior lecturer in physical education at Salford University.

Sesame to monitor arts therapy. Sesame, the organization concerned with the movement and drama therapy, has set up the Sesame Institute for the Arts in Therapy. It will investigate the need for specialist arts therapists for students waiting for those engaged in arts therapy.

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Lévi-Strauss on Liberty NEWSOCIETY OUT NOW 25p

# DES paper gives 1981 view of FE

The Department of Education and Science has published a "background paper" to the deliberations of the DES committee on the management of advanced further education in the local authority sector.

The paper contains the department's view of further education in 1981. The figure for the number of institutions doing advanced work in the 1980s is only a guide since the final list of college courses has not yet been published.

According to the DES there will be about 100 institutions specializing in degree work. Higher National Diplomas and advanced professional qualifications. A further 300 colleges will be devoting more than a third of their time to this level which includes DipITE

and teacher training work. The figures for polytechnic student numbers in the table include students in colleges of education expected to merge with polytechnics by 1981.

The paper makes special mention of a group of colleges the management of which will provide the Oakes committee with headcases. These are the "independent colleges" operating under the aegis of charitable trusts or non-profit making companies but receiving part or all of their recurrent funds from local authorities. There are 40 such colleges with about 47,000 students.

The paper also emphasizes the diversity between and, indeed, within, colleges. It notes, for example, that the cost of student in polytechnics ranges from £1,100 to £2,350 for arts students and from

£1,550 to £3,600 for science and technology students.

Special mention is made of the grievance—often voiced by polytechnic staff—concerning the great variety of agencies to which they are applying for approval of courses. The paper notes that advanced courses have to be approved by the regional advisory councils, and by the Council for National Academic Awards. The CNA may lay down certain requirements on staffing or facilities which could have a direct impact on the institution's need for management. Yet the CNA has no financial responsibilities.

Reports on Education No 90: The Management of Non-University Higher Education, available from Room 205, DES, Elizabeth House, York Road, London SE1 7PH.

Expected pattern of institutions 1981	Type		Student numbers 1975/76		Full-time	
	No.	Full-time	1975/76	1976/77	1975/76	1976/77
(i) with over 90 per cent advanced work						
Former colleges of education, free-standing or amalgamated with other colleges	57	33,275	219	2,165	966	966
Specialist colleges (such as Music or Agricultural)	7	3,290	41	48	—	—
Other colleges	3	604	—	19	—	—
(ii) with between 50 per cent and 90 per cent advanced work						
Former colleges of education amalgamated with other colleges	18	17,885	2,029	9,654	4,318	4,318
Specialist colleges	25	4,238	814	1,440	—	—
Other colleges	14	4,876	1,475	6,847	3,417	3,417
(iii) with less than 50 per cent advanced work						
Former colleges of education amalgamated with other colleges	2	1,122	10	668	385	385
Specialist colleges	7	51	142	—	4	4
Other colleges						
with full-time or sandwich students	96	5,085	3,168	20,028	8,191	8,191
with no full-time or sandwich students	49	166,989	10,638	10,638	4,266	4,266
<b>Total</b>	<b>418</b>	<b>168,989</b>	<b>38,130</b>	<b>87,670</b>	<b>38,030</b>	<b>38,030</b>

# Oakes committee told to avoid big changes

The Oakes committee, investigating local authority control of the polytechnics and colleges, was advised last week to avoid "massive changes" and to stick to modifying the existing system.

Mr Eric Robinson, principal of Brunel College, said at Newcastle Polytechnic that the "seamless robe" of educational control by the local authorities ought not to be torn. It simply needed gussets and zip fasteners.

He recommended that the big further education colleges come under the authority of joint committees of local authorities. These would give small towns and rural areas a stake alongside the big metropolises

authorities which at present control most of the polytechnics and important colleges of further education.

Mr Robinson, a critic of polytechnics and universities, attacked the terms of reference of the committee set up under the chairmanship of Mr Oakes, Minister overseeing higher education.

He said it is regrettable that the terms of reference of the Oakes committee are limited to higher education because it can look at only part of the problem. And, worse than that, the deprivation of higher education is highly noticeable and rejoices one of the most important questions; namely, whether or not the education of the

intelligentsia should be considered quite separately from the education of ordinary people.

Mr Robinson dismissed much of the debate in recent years over how far local authorities should control polytechnics. It was mostly petty bickering and wretched conflict. Education officers and academics would do well to lay down the sabre and lay in stocks of mid-night oil, he added.

He also warned that regional planning of higher education could only take place within the framework of national planning. It was in the area of national planning that the Oakes committee might expect some of its ammunition.

# Daniel Bell detects signs of new religious revival

by David Walker

Signs of a widespread religious revival were detected by the leading American sociologist, Professor Daniel Bell, when he delivered the L. T. Hobhouse Memorial Lecture at the London School of Economics last week.

Professor Bell, on a year's sabbatical in Britain, criticised traditional sociological theories of religion and ventured a number of predictions. They included the judgment that fundamentalist religion, emphasizing morality was on the upsurge.

In the United States, he said, the largest growing voluntary associations have been the fundamentalist churches in which farmers, lower middle class groups and small-town artisans flocked. To some extent this movement belonged to the "silent majority" who decried abortion, sexual freedom and the abandonment of traditional morality.

But the new religious interest did not belong just to the lower classes. Among professionals and intellectuals he detected a religious awareness stemming from discontent with central government, bureaucracy and big organizations. People were returning to the "private sphere" of life—family, church, neighbourhood and voluntary associations. There was an increased sense of the need to care for one's neighbours.

Professor Bell, his paper studded with biblical allusions and wide references to European social thought, put the point this way: "The mediating institutions, centred as they will be on the idea of caring, resurrect the idea of caritas, one of the oldest sources of human altruism, in form of love that has been crushed between rationalized eros and profaned eros, and superseded by the welfare state. They may arise in use an older theological term in the koinon, the primary groups where people live and work."

He ended by arguing that in the West and, perhaps, in the East, were growing new vocationalities. As key words in a limit to growth in the structure of the economy, in nature, and to human values.



Daniel Bell

A third impulse behind the resurgence of religion was the quality of modern life, he said, and would seek them in a new form of religion.

Retracing the fact that many of the few sociologists who mark the turns in the wheel, if all events become the same, it is hard to see how the new vocationalities, when one marries a radio, or carries one's child, or the spiritualness of a prophet, can be part of the new vocationalities.

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# Don's diary

## Santa Cruz

My view of California had for years consisted of a mixture of Puccini's *Bohème* and the Golden West and the *Beach Boys*—eased out by memories of a summer month in 1968 which seems in retrospect to have been entirely spent plunging up and down the streets of San Francisco on a borrowed Honda with a bonnet like a Jules Verne space-hat and a boot like a Verne space-hat rear end; it was not the kind of thing you threw around like Bullitt's Mustang. The excitement it generated was more like sailing an aircraft carrier in a typhoon—the specific view in leave into view and then vanish behind the flight deck as you awaited and urged an effort to avoid crashing cable cars and invisible Volkswagens.

New Year's Day 1977—cold, wet and windy, as we drove down the coast to Santa Cruz—come as a bit of a shock, therefore. It is true that I had been told a winter quarter at the University of California at Santa Cruz might not be the best way to acquire a golden tan; what you had forgotten was how unadorned much of California still is, and how rapidly it can induce the sensation that one is driving into something like the amenities of Dartmoor, with a wife and a tiny baby in reach, one for risking their lives.

Next day the rain stopped, the Pacific sparkled, I met my colleagues in the politics department, and signed up for three months in the Earthly Paradise. It is hard to exaggerate the beauties of the Santa Cruz campus; set in a redwood forest, 500 feet above Monterey Bay. The architecture is not marvellous, but the ground rules—nothing higher than the surrounding redwoods, that building to be put down—mean that it does not strike the surroundings which are ravishing.

The university is very conscious of this, as indeed is every university in the area. The local newspaper's magazine section is called "Tree in Sea Living"; the scenic drive signposted for summer visitors is likewise the "Tree in Sea Drive".

When I could supply a "Tree in Sea" Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke and Rousseau was another thing entirely. Voltaire may have thought Rousseau was urging us to go back to the forest, but Rousseau himself says that he would have spoken nothing but of surfing.

The students overwhelmingly come from professional and academic backgrounds; and they seem frequently to have been a perfect fit in exactly the same way as their English counterparts. Students who insist that the necessity of examining one's presuppositions means that a course cannot start until we know why we must in a seminar room, why we must round a table, why we wear clothes and so on, do become a pain.

On the other hand, there is no cause for complaint since we brought it on ourselves; Santa Cruz set up one of its colleges as a place to study the counter culture and its ways, far from the "country-foley" college on account of its enthusiasm for interviewing candidates for jobs in hand-holding context groups.

But colleagues who had found it all a bit much were by this spring complaining that the present generation of students was an intellectual disaster.

The whole, of course, the influence of the place's setting was not direct as this—though such as the students' wish to credit their parents with ecological concerns he never displayed in his lifetime did suggest a direct transfer of interests.

Where it did emerge was an intellectual style, and an urge to ask different questions from those you would expect elsewhere. It was not so much California laid back—though that no doubt provided a basis as a determined personal approach to the so-called great books.

All my students hated Hobbes, for instance, on the grounds that he seemed to sbero on feelings in common; the test for intellectual quality, political insight, philosophical depth, was what it did for you. The view that American literature is general has been embraced by every new Updike novel.

In intention, Santa Cruz sets out to be a Californian version of an English new university. It was Clark Kerr's last contribution to high priced higher education—it was to be collegiate, and the first provisos of its colleges were almost invariably Englishmen. But, characteristically, it was to have 27 colleges of 1,000 students a piece; it has now got 6,000 students and is not expected to grow much bigger for some time.

It scatters its students up and down the hillsides in a place with no real centre—no Sprout Plaza as some of my students said, and therefore none of the political excitement of Berkeley. Unlike Housman, who opened up Paris for the professional soldier to keep the mobs in order, the Kerr principles of planning would make it physically complicated to bring enough volatile material together to generate a good big bang.

That impression may well be residual paranoia. For, most of what was intended made it impossible for anyone in the administration to get much of an intellectual or organizational grip on the young. In particular, there was an emphasis on individual teaching, individual planning of tutorial courses, and on elaborate written assessments of student progress, all of which meant that it would be something of a fudge if half a dozen students suited up with identical programmes.

I never did work out how they expected to run a semi-rational system in American staffing ratios—but in the mid-1960s it looked in many areas as if California was where our future was coming from, that they no doubt reckoned that money, technology and hordes of full professors, never in some silvo hills, students would silvo hills.

As with the Sussex University it very largely worked. My ramp at the basic elements of American education was never good enough to appreciate just what SAT scores represented, but for a long time the SAT scores of Santa Cruz students were streets ahead of all others in the state.

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## At odds

The University of California is, as ever, at odds with the government. Having got through the Reagan years, when it was accused of pauperizing its students, it is now in the disagreeable situation of being accused by its successor, Jerry Brown, for its allegiance to undemanding standards. Against the political hostility of a Jesuit-trained, self-proclaimed Zen Buddhist and capitalist, it is no use explaining that students work hard, learn a lot and go on to get decent jobs.

So much the worse for them and you, when you are charged with complexity in a system which does not yield whatever it is that the government wants for the world. (I do not think I am alone in having an idea what that is; the citizenry of California gave little to go on beyond faintly mystical opinions to scale down their desire.)

On mundane matters like pay, university teachers come under the Buddhist ban; since they get so much "psychic income" they do not need dollars too. No doubt the observation that you cannot open a house with psychic incomes will be met with the reply that you should repress the urge to surround yourself with walls and a roof.

Still, for anyone on the salary of a full professor, never in some silvo hills, students would silvo hills. The self-reducing view, of course, amounts to putting yourself on the back and murmuring "no pearls without grit." As if the drearier aspects of English life necessarily lay down the materials for summing intellectual activity. You do not need great reserves of modesty in the nature of the experiment depends upon widespread recognition presciently based on educational criteria rather than political faith. This is perhaps just as well, for political principle is not pursued in the name of a distinguished expert as Professor Bell.

Although the prospectus states that the fees are calculated on the basis of the real economic costs of the education provided, assignments from the state is not entirely forgone. The college may be an exercise in free enterprise but it has, of course, ensured for itself the tangible benefits of charitable status.

A recent House of Commons report on the development of an educational venture, a bumpy cushion against the pressures of the free market even if the beneficiaries are directly put into the category of the needy.

Nevertheless, next year's students will face fees of £2,000. This may appear to create rather an exclusive student body on which to establish an experiment in higher education, but as Professor Bell says, "disparagingly" it is a "young generation" who are likely to be less intelligent than the children of the less well off.

Some of us may be forgiven for believing that the more prevalent and potent illusion in our society is based upon the exact contrary proposition. As Sir Douglas Allen put it, "The government departments and the research councils have refused this recognition. Nor can the Department of Education, and Science yield unless it proposes to challenge the judgment of the Council for National Academic Awards that Buckingham's proposals do not satisfy degree criteria.

Yet the verdict of the CNA, a body created under the auspices of a Conservative Government more than 12 years ago precisely to fulfil the function of monitoring the standards of degree proposals in institutions without university status, appears to be set on naught by the present Conservative establishment. With the help of this educational judgment to fall prey to political prejudices—the rest of us ought to be on our guard.

# Buckingham's challenge to the status quo



Bryan Davies

"The College must be seen as something of a triumph of faith over probability," wrote Mox Bell, principal of the University College of Buckingham, appropriately enough in the most recent version of the Black Papers. Similar faith was probably moved by Mox Bell to open the college officially a few months ago. Scarcely surprising, therefore, that Mr Keith Humphreys, Conservative spokesman on education, could contain himself no longer before proclaiming that a Tory government would recognize the Buckingham "fiend" as the equivalent of a university degree.

With dogma at the driving wheel presumably reason must rest content with a back seat. For the vast majority of us who until recently have regarded the evolution of the college as a somewhat eccentric sideshow, this commitment of the Tories raises a number of interesting questions. Professor Bell, after all, described his creation as a pilot plan. It represents the radical right's determination to challenge university provision under the aegis of the University Grants Committee.

The success of the experiment depends upon widespread recognition presciently based on educational criteria rather than political faith. This is perhaps just as well, for political principle is not pursued in the name of a distinguished expert as Professor Bell. Although the prospectus states that the fees are calculated on the basis of the real economic costs of the education provided, assignments from the state is not entirely forgone. The college may be an exercise in free enterprise but it has, of course, ensured for itself the tangible benefits of charitable status.

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# Rabbi refusal deplored

Salford University has issued a statement deploring the decision of the students' union to refuse a rabbi the right to address the university's Jewish society.

A statement from the Rt Rev Edward Wickham, chairman of the council, and Mr J. H. Horlock, the vice-chancellor, said the university must continue to make other facilities available to speakers excluded from the union.

The students' union has passed a motion that Zionism is racism. It has a policy of not inviting racist speakers and it was on those grounds that the rabbi was prevented from speaking.

The statement from the university said: "A university is nothing if it is not a place where free discussion of even the most difficult and controversial issues can take place." Discussions with the students' union are continuing in an attempt to resolve the problem.

Mr Alan Elmer, field officer for the Union of Jewish Students, said this week that the statement was "whitewash".

# Small drop in poly's teacher

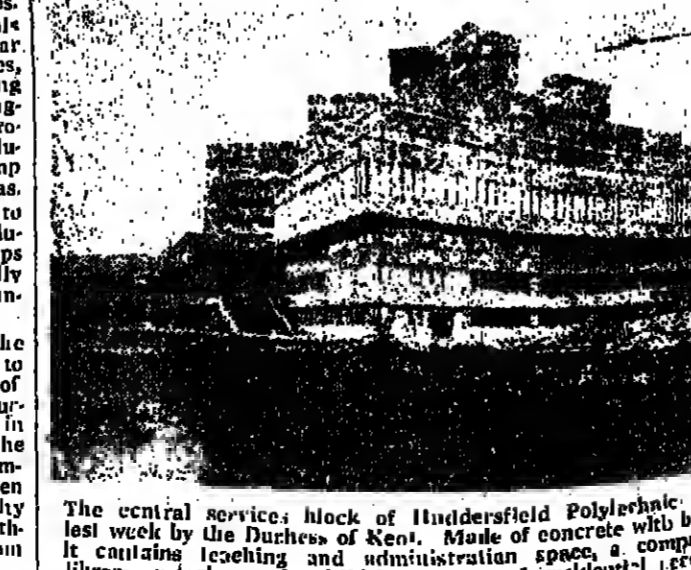
The percentage of Lanchester polytechnic students entering training dropped by only one per cent last year despite the cutbacks of obtaining teachers.

This figure is given in the report of the polytechnic's Training and Appointment Service, which says it is "a little surprising" the numbers decreased only 11 to 10 per cent.

(Overall, the job pattern of polytechnic graduates has changed little since last year. It appears, says the report, that the percentage of those entering employment rose from 52 per cent in 1975 to 61 per cent in 1976.

Two groups of students who were employed mainly in public sector and regional and local government employment, faced major difficulties. The demand for graduates in industry and commerce was relatively unchanged. The figure was 72 per cent compared with 67 per cent in the previous year. There was a small decrease in the number entering public sector.

# New block at Huddersfield



The central services block of Huddersfield Polytechnic was last week by the Duchess of Kent. Made of concrete with brick, it contains teaching and administration spaces and residential accommodation, library, catering and exhibition areas and residential accommodation.

# Me-ism

The whole, of course, the influence of the place's setting was not direct as this—though such as the students' wish to credit their parents with ecological concerns he never displayed in his lifetime did suggest a direct transfer of interests.

Where it did emerge was an intellectual style, and an urge to ask different questions from those you would expect elsewhere. It was not so much California laid back—though that no doubt provided a basis as a determined personal approach to the so-called great books.

All my students hated Hobbes, for instance, on the grounds that he seemed to sbero on feelings in common; the test for intellectual quality, political insight, philosophical depth, was what it did for you. The view that American literature is general has been embraced by every new Updike novel.

# Alan Ryan

The author is fellow of New College, Oxford.



Taking Rousseau (left) to California.

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## OU and schooling

Sir,—Messrs Lewin and Villiamy (*THES*, April 29) impugn my review (April 22) of their OU reader, *The Process of Schooling* for three reasons. The first is that much of the material is American; more than one-third is. I did say that much of the material is old and previously read by me; age with such criteria is largely a relative judgment and I do find the material old, or, if the editors prefer, stale. As I suggested, the book smacks of the 1960s.

The editors praise their footnote on structural functionalism as clear and precise. I envy their good opinions of themselves. The statement about the sources is factually wrong; have the editors read Burke or Spencer? Have they read Coote, Bonold, Hiegel? I rank one of their sentences on Lazarsfeld as paranoiacal in intention. Apparently it is not so. For that I apologise. That the error is possible casts doubt on their clarity.

The article on Science, Nature and Control by Shaplo and Barnes is on a subject which interests me, is neglected, and concerning which I would wish to know more. They proceed largely by aspersions and the deployment of pejorative adjectives. This devalues their esse. Any reader who cares to see what I mean can turn to the article itself, pages 55-65 of *Schooling and Capitalism*. The reader who does not feel "unpagalized" will, I suggest, be very wise indeed.

I am not concerned to attack the OU. To the contrary I am, this side of idolatry, an admirer. But this admiration is not relevant when it comes to reviewing books. Yours faithfully, DONALD G. MACRAE Professor of Sociology London School Economics and Political Studies.

## Policy studies

Sir,—Of a Boston professor to be alerting us to the particularities of the American scene and the hazards of a Brookings transplant (*THES*, May 6) is not without irony, but it is a warning to be heeded. Analogous comments can be made about proposals for a British-style Ecole Nationale d'Administration. These ideas share characteristics beyond those set out by Professor Miller. Both represent borrowed solutions for problems inadequately diagnosed. As such, they are likely to prove futile, adding further to the number of supposedly innovative institutions which yield little.

More fundamentally, the problems they are intended to resolve and address—continued weaknesses in accountability and responsibility in the policy area, arguments for more research and training not infrequently are a substitute for action for which the case is already strong and whose nature the nature of the changes required for significant improvements does not go beyond the stock experience already available.

The need is to tighten up on our requirements of those in positions of high managerial responsibility in the public no less than in the private sector, to introduce a stronger discipline of accountability, then to back developments inside organizations which improve capacities to evaluate and raise standards of effectiveness. It is here that the development of policy studies needs to take place. In the current climate, proposals for new institutes tend only to divert attention from the central issue.

## School alive and well

Sir,—In case readers of your profile of the Polytechnic of Central London (*THES*, April 15) are led to assume that its schools of management studies and social sciences and business studies no longer exist, let me hasten to assure them that they are alive and well, and located in central London. There has, in fact, been no break in the teaching of management and business here since 1923.

KENNETH AMBROSE, School of Management Studies, MILLS ATKINSON, School of Social Sciences and Business Studies, Polytechnic of Central London.

## Censorship and the BBC

Sir,—We wish to express our concern over the reported refusal by the BBC to televise the Open University's production of Genet's *The Balcony* on the grounds of obscenity in the opening scenes (*THES*, May 13).

Over the past 20 years, Genet has gained a reputation as one of France's greatest living playwrights. Any serious production of one of his plays, even when presented in television terms, requires a respect for Genet's detailed instructions for the realization of the text, particularly in the special instance of a production for Open University students. The inability of the BBC administration to distinguish gratuitous titillation from the dramatic expression of a powerful and important artistic vision is unfortunate.

Genet's plays will survive dis-

torted productions. Of more immediate concern than this are the queries raised about the relationship between the BBC and the Open University, and particularly the unsavoury question of censorship. The Open University, if it is to provide education in any meaningful sense, must be free to discuss a subject in whatever manner it thinks fit. The BBC has its obligations under the Charter, but the refusal to screen the play at any hour—even 6 am on a Sunday—seems to display an excessive concern for viewers' sensitivities. Academic integrity should not be subject to prejudices exercised under the guise of "public responsibility". Such vetoes will effectively prevent Open University arts courses from making any substantial contribution to the field of education in broader terms, the expansion of cultural awareness.

Finally, it should be recalled that *The Balcony* first achieved a mass

audience in Britain 13 years ago when broadcast on the Third Programme on November 20, 1954. If the BBC is disturbed by the potency of the television image, is it equally convinced of the impotence of the spoken word?

J. ADAMS, P. P. CORBIN, Lecturer in English, J. E. FLOWER, Professor of French, J. FOX, Lecturer in French, E. W. MARTIN, Research Fellow, L. du S. READ, Lecturer in Drama, J. RUDLIN, Lecturer in Drama, G. SALGADO, Professor of English, P. W. THOMSON, Director of Drama, N. N. SALES, Lecturer in Drama, University of Exeter.

## Lecturers and pay code

Sir,—I must congratulate David Walker (*THES*, May 13) in finding yet more material in that political lost cause, pay parity for university lecturers.

For the record, the extra two increments in the university career grade scale represent at best a longer apprenticeship, and not the "real advantage" which is sometimes supposed. There is a joke current at Brunel University: first the good news, the Association of University Teachers have negotiated an automatic progression to the senior lecturer grades. The bad news—that we have parity with the polytechnics, but only at the top of the scale.

There are other points of detail. Non-contributory pension schemes in the Civil Service—there would be a lower fraction of university teachers earning over £5,400 in the universities if we were allowed to appoint enough young lecturers to enjoy the favourable staffing ratios of the public sector—early polytechnic promotions permitted to senior lecturers, and so on. But there is one thing (though it does not help my lecturers to pay their bills): we do have brighter students. M. L. V. PITTBWAY Professor of Computer Science, Brunel University.

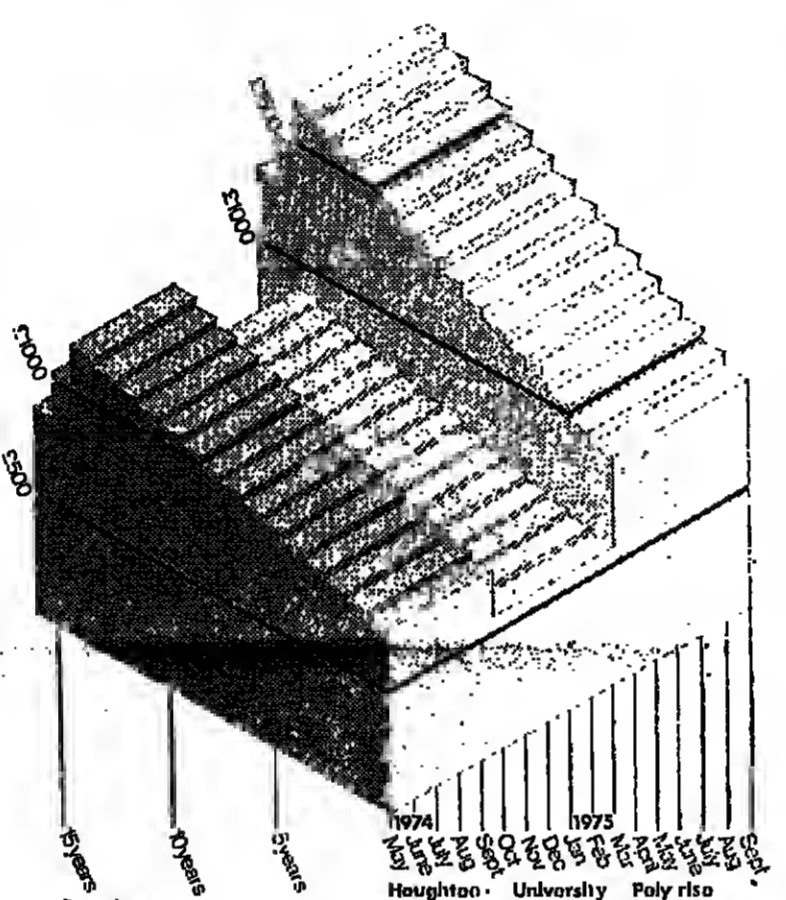
Sir,—University teachers and administrators attending the Liverpool Council meeting this week will welcome your lead and David Walker's statistical analysis (*THES*, May 13) but I would make two comments on your proposals. If the TUC's price for a Phase Three is the restoration of flexibility in entry negotiations, the Government would do well also to restore the integrity of the arbitration machinery, without which we shall not avoid sterile threats or strike action. The introduction of a compromise two-year package implementation of the 1975 award—outside the "cash limits" bind—would be a welcome gesture in this direction.

David Walker may be forgiven for suggesting in these inflationary days that academic work is pleasant and secure—to quote W. S. Gilbert, "in easy languor—motionless, we lie and dream of nothingness." Reality for many young men and women in this university (and Cambridge is no exception) is that proven ability and talent are no guarantee of security of tenure. For this reason, the "THES package" would be a more effective economic expedient if it were weighted in favour of the under-35s in the first.

PHILIP LAIOLAW, Vice-President, Cambridge Association of University Teachers.

## Research income

Sir,—Your article on research income of UK universities (*THES*, April 22) correctly pointed out the wide disparity between the abilities of universities to attract research funds. However, care is needed in interpreting the figures selected and it seems to me that your overall conclusion about the dominance of certain kinds of universities is invalid. First, the figures in the Statistics



Sir,—David Walker's article on university teachers' salaries (*THES*, May 13) left me feeling very disappointed. There is obviously scope for presenting all points of view in the long drawn out controversy about salaries, but surely an article so full of nonsequiturs is an inadequate vehicle for any point of view.

Since when has reviewing been paid (at least for the majority of academics)? What does the fact that there are 3,500 professors and 1,200 assistant secretaries prove? Certainly not the implied suggestion that it is three times as difficult to become an assistant secretary as it is to become a professor.

Unlike David Walker I am not primarily interested in differentials (though I do not think that to compare a graduate school teacher's salary with a university lecturer's is necessarily appropriate when these days a lecturer is much more likely to have two degrees than one). University lecturers start their working lives late and it is in the early part of their careers that the pinch is really felt. Mr Walker does concede that young lecturers' salaries are important but does not pursue the point.

What concerns me most closely

is the relatively low pay which young lecturers receive and which means that many either decide that they cannot support a family or are straggling to do so. For them a shortened salary scale is as important as a salary rise.

To compare the lecturers' scale with the sums paid to administration trainees and principals in the Civil Service is distinctly misleading because ATs can usually reckon in hecom principals by 30, whereas lecturers are nearer 40 before they achieve a salary comparable with a principal's.

When the arbitration committee agreed that what the Department of Education and Science was offering was too low some hope was offered to young university lecturers and their families. This expectation has yet to be fulfilled. When one gets away from all the invidious comparisons between the status and wages of university and polytechnic lecturers this central point remains. An Imperial recommendation is suffering the effects of its non-implementation reading an article like Mr Walker's is a depressing experience.

CHARLOTTE BYRNE, 79 Langley Park Road, Sutton, Surrey.

## Education of income for the universities of Oxford and Cambridge

Third, you do not mention the performance of the teaching, non-specialist colleges of the universities of London and Wales. For the record, the University College of North Wales obtained in 1974-75 income from research grants and contracts of £742,993 representing 14.6 per cent of total income. R. BROWN, School of Mathematics and Computer Science, University College of North Wales.

## Environmental science

Sir,—The report of a recent national conference on environmental education (*THES*, April 29) was against single science degrees and in favour of broad multi-disciplinary approaches.

I recently attended a conference on environmental education, organized by the Chemical Society, where very different views were expressed. This conference was the strong opinion that environmental scientists were of little use to their companies. Newly graduated scientists were of little use to their companies. Newly graduated scientists were of little use to their companies.

These speakers wanted physical chemists, chemists, microbiologists and others who could be combined into disciplinary teams to do the broad interdisciplinary work. This would be developed through experience, in-company training, and short courses endorsed by a water authority.

University and polytechnic courses have begun to respond to the demand for single subject degrees. A review of courses presented at the conference indicated that many environmental courses were of a high standard. Science and technology are an environmental flavour.

This ties in with the expressed concern over the depth of understanding of science topics among science graduates. A lecturer confided that each atmospheric pollution industry to his chemistry students to his environmental students whose basic chemistry was weak. He also stated that his own chemistry students' practical work was finding difficulty in obtaining jobs, but environmental science could find suitable employment.

In all fairness, this emphasis on understanding of science topics among science graduates. A lecturer confided that each atmospheric pollution industry to his chemistry students to his environmental students whose basic chemistry was weak. He also stated that his own chemistry students' practical work was finding difficulty in obtaining jobs, but environmental science could find suitable employment.

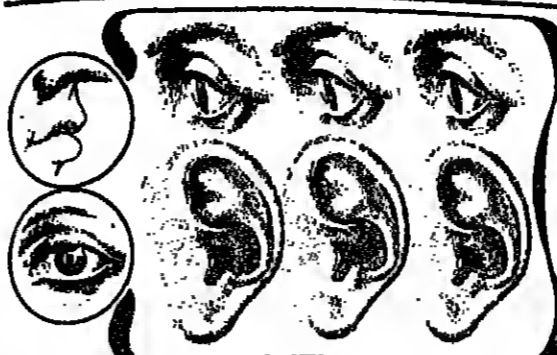
## Film hire

Sir,—It was interesting to read Alec Hughes's article on Sponsoring Bill Neill (*THES*, April 15) but this is only part of the problem.

There are many very good American produced films available in the field of physics. I discover it is impossible to get on hire in this country. It would appear that money is being poured into the purchase and hire of films which are being accepted as being available in their field.

Such films are: *The Education of a Genius*, *The Challenge of Galileo*, *The Challenge of Physicists*, *Playing Dice with God*.

No agency appears to exist which requests to purchase outstanding films which might be required to be selective and to require to be such of purchase which would be such as to justify purchase. This is an area of need. I have seen the *THES* or COI which would be valuable. W. R. M. CRAIG, Director, Educational Development Unit, Paisley College of Technology.



# Presenting your witness

by Julian Fulbrook

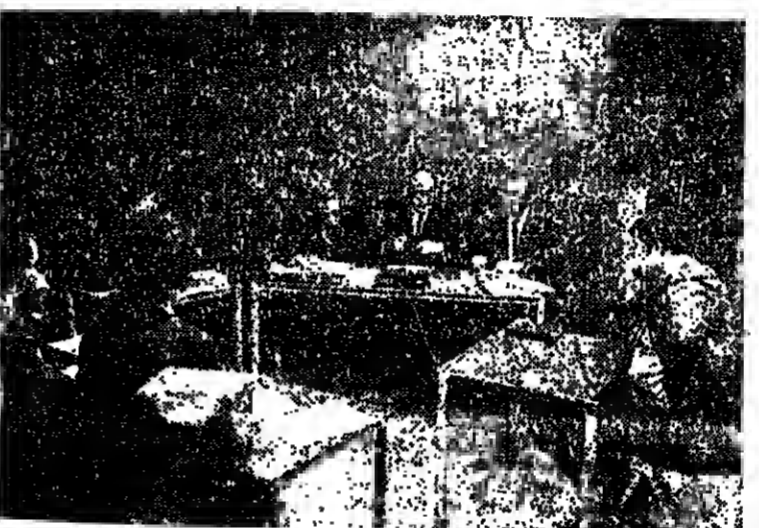
Industrial tribunals were created in 1964, but their jurisdiction has expanded rapidly in recent years and they are, in effect, "Labour Courts". Applications on issues such as unfair dismissal, redundancy, sex discrimination and equal pay continue to rise steeply, and it is difficult to envisage a personnel manager or trade union official who is not daily enmeshed in making judgments on the law in this area. There is, however, a great deal of misunderstanding.

Your Witness, a video cassette on how to prepare a case for an industrial tribunal should undoubtedly have a substantial market in management training and there is much here of interest for WEA and TIC courses. It uses a typical example of an unfair dismissal application, which is acted out in a simulated hearing, and then gives contemporary and additional material on preparation and presentation generally.

The scriptwriters, Professor R. W. Rideout, professor of labour

law at University College, London, and Mr J. McGlynn, senior lecturer in employment law at UWIST, are both eminently qualified to speak on the theoretical aspects of the subject, but in fact the film concentrates on advocacy questions such as procedure and witness presentation. This format is clearly designed in aid of the bewildered manager, but it will be less useful to law students or experienced practitioners before tribunals.

The film opens with scenes from a tribunal hearing involving "clocking in". The witness, who is presumably a personnel manager, is having an embarrassing time explaining his past actions. The replays coaches him in contradictory statements and is able to demonstrate ineptness and a neglect of normal industrial practice. When a tribunal lay member intervenes to the company, the witness shows his total ignorance of any such phenomena.



The set of "Your Witness", the tribunal.

# Studying the do's and don'ts

For the past five years I have been teaching an introductory electronics course to electrical engineers, using an individualized system (Keller plan), in which lectures are replaced by a text book and study guide, and students work at their own pace.

The study guide is divided into units, each of which consists of an introduction, a statement of objectives, notes and comments on the examples, problems with solutions, and tests by which each student can assess his own progress. I also provide a brief outline with each unit to help those who prefer learning to looking.

Two years ago it occurred to me that some students might need definite help to use this unorthodox system successfully and so I added some advice on "how to study" to the guide. This advice was linked to be done, so that students could immediately practise what they had been advised to do. It was reinforced in subsequent units, again with links as to how one word of it was the reply.

The second illustrates the student's own uncertainties in his reactions to the study advice.

(1) Advice	(2) Agree with it	(3) Follow it	(4) 3 out of 2
Always work over worked examples.	39	29	74
Don't just read them.	37	28	76
Do some of the problems before looking at the solutions.	36	22	61
Use list of objectives as check list of what you have to learn.	33	19	58
Take short rest periods while studying.	31	17	55
Make lists of key points while noting.	35	16	46
Discuss difficult passages with fellow students.	25	11	44
Use analogies if you need them.	27	10	37
Use a definite strategy when reading (one was suggested).	25	9	36
	19	8	42

the advice one of my research students, Vivien Hodgson, interviewed 22 of the 54 students on the course to get their reactions. Her first conclusion was rather depressing, in that only one of the 22 freely stated that he had benefited from the advice. At the same time he claimed not to have learnt anything new from it, and this reaction turned out to be a key factor in the whole study.

Many students said that if some piece of advice agreed with their already existing habits, then it tended to reinforce them, but if it was not the case then they tended to justify their own methods. However, all had read and considered the merits of the advice before deciding whether to take it or not.

Two pieces of dialogue will serve to illustrate other conclusions. In the first, Vivien asked a student "white hot thought" about the advice on rest periods, which he had referred to. "Well I like to see it actually written down, when I was at school I used to blast away for hours and hours and next morning I couldn't remember a word of it" was the reply.

The second illustrates the student's own uncertainties in his reactions to the study advice.

At this point, Professor Rideout appears, stating that the purpose of the film is to prevent such humiliation. Descriptions are given of the tribunal membership, and then sequences provide information on how to avoid hearsay and leading questions, selection of witnesses, trade unionists and workmates do not make good witnesses for an employer's "truth" evidence, analysis of time limitations, and examination of witnesses.

The legal practitioner will find only revision here, but managers will do well to be usefully exposed to advocacy lore such as "the art of cross examination does not lie in examining crossly". More helpful to potential witnesses is the injunction to resist being provoked into a damaging outburst as the day wears on. The example in the film—"love you ever had to deal with layabouts?"—is typical.

Minor criticisms can be made of the visual impact of the film. While not wishing to question the telegraphic qualities of the authors, there is too much inactivity as the film slides square to the camera and speaking very slowly. The graphics of Fred at the factory gate are splendid and more use of such illustrations would have led to greater liveliness.

Theoretical knowledge of the technical law and its oral presentation at courts or tribunals are of course very different things. Far too little attention is given to teaching managers, trade unionists or law students about the practical advocacy problems they will face; particularly now that lawyers have greater access to adjudication machinery.

Your Witness  
J. McGlynn and R. W. Rideout  
24 minute videotape available from Westway Audio Visual Ltd, 2 Charles St, Bristol BS1 5NN. £75 excluding VAT.

The author is lecturer in law at the London School of Economics.

# No need for chalk

So many lectures, talks and demonstrations are marred by the misuse of the overhead projector that a film showing how the equipment may be turned into the asset its inventor intended cannot but be a good idea. The wonder is that nobody had done it before.

The National Committee for Audio-Visual Aids set the reels turning to this purpose some months ago. The result *Over to You: Using the O.P.* is a 26-minute 16mm colour film that is intended both to introduce the equipment and to demonstrate the splendours of its potential as a teaching aid.

That it does not quite do that is a pity. The pace is slow, too little attention is given to presentation and the mid-Atlantic accents of the commentator had a fair proportion of the audience wondering about his origins rather than the business in hand.

Moreover, one of the multi-reproduction ideas contained in the sequence on transparency preparation might justifiably make authors' lockers rise because the little matter of copyright is ignored; one wonders how the owners of the film rights would view a pirating of their own material.

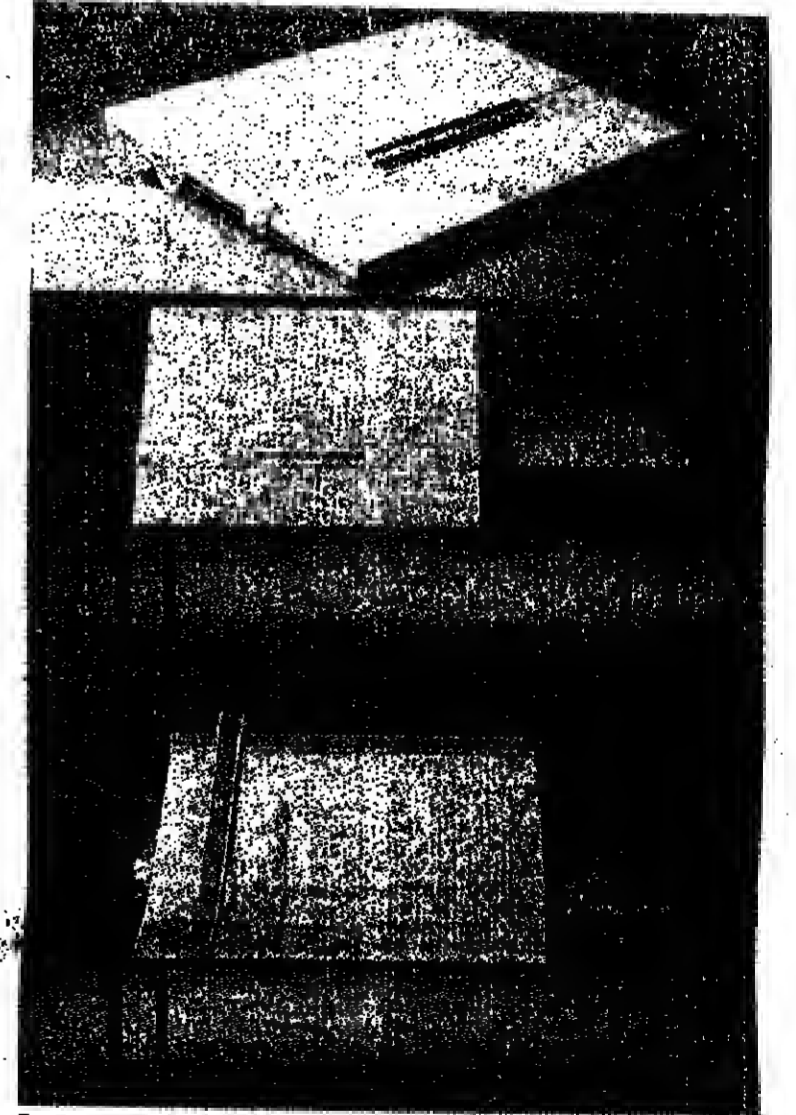
On the positive side it must be said that *Over to You* is intended to be part of a package. It is far use primarily in training courses, not as a separate entity; a workshop manual and background teaching notes are in preparation and will normally be used with the film.

It offers a useful run-down on the confusingly varied materials available for transparency-making and there are good ideas for the involvement of children and for the establishment of filing systems which, if not taught early, could soon cause chaos in the store cupboard of even the mildly prolific. Moreover, the film conveys the notion of flexibility and makes clear to lecturers and teachers the potential of an inventive turn of mind.

It contains one unspoken gem of advice: a visual judge that one refers to the use of the overhead projector by a teacher illustrating a French lesson, where the equipment is used so competently that the world's most natural thing in the world, as uncomplicated as board and chalk. Apparently the sequence was shot during the course of a genuine lesson and the style was the teacher's own. Would that there were more like her.

Owen Surridge

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The author is professor and head of the Institute for Educational Technology, Surrey University.





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### Union accepts New York dismissals as 'inevitable'

The dismissal of over 1,000 lecturers at the City University of New York last year was probably inevitable, given New York's financial crisis, an investigating committee of the American Association of University Professors has concluded.

But the university did not follow the proper procedures, and did not give enough notice to faculty members. The committee hoped there would not be any more budget cuts at the university, though it was not sanguine. It also warned that the same kind of "drift" was occurring in 1977. "A second round of terminations with utterly inadequate notice will not be excusable", it said.

Some of those laid off at CUNY received only 30 days' notice, the report said. Conditions of uncertainty mitigated the delay in facing the grim facts but the dismissals "surely represent the most massive abrupt terminations in the annals of higher education in the United States."

The ad hoc committee did not investigate individual cases. It found that the retrenchment was accompanied without terminating the appointment of any full-time teacher with tenure as recognized by the university's by-laws. But a number of tenured counselors, technicians and administrative officers were dismissed.

It also said the faculty participation in the decisions affecting the 18-college university as a whole were "intrinsically and chronically inadequate". At college level the regulations were satisfactory, but these structures either did not sustain the weight of events or were abandoned by college presidents in the crisis of 1976.

The report said: "There has never been a case where a major university first expanded and then deflated so rapidly. The deflation has meant severe hardships, not only for the professors... but also for the students who have not been able to pursue their education, for thousands of other staff members who have lost their jobs, for the very fabric of colleges that have meant so much to generations of aspiring New Yorkers."

### A believer in standards

Robert Hutchins, one of America's most influential figures in the development of higher education, and a man who stamped his mould on the University of Chicago, has died in California at the age of 78.

Mr Hutchins became President of the University of California at the age of 50, and during his 22 years there he carried through an educational revolution. He attacked what he saw as the trivialisation of American higher education with its undue emphasis on sports, fraternities and extra-curricular activities. He was also strongly opposed to vocationalism in universities.

He brought to Chicago a Great Books Programme, which included more than 50 writers and 200 books and leaned heavily on the Ancient Greeks and Romans. St John's College, Annapolis, is today still running a similar programme (THESE April 29).

His reign at Chicago was marked by controversy. Students needed no high school credits for admission, provided they could pass an admissions test; they were not forced to attend classes and could take their final examinations any time they felt prepared for them. Football was abolished at the university (it has since been restored).

### Ombudsman first

The world's first Ombudsman Institute is to be established at the University of Alberta. It will coordinate research on the function of an Ombudsman, catalogue information on the institution, organize seminars and possibly publish an Ombudsman journal.

Canada was host to the first International Ombudsman Conference last year, attended by Ombudsmen from 18 countries. The institute, in the university's faculty of law, will be financed mainly by a private foundation.

### Carter aide leaves Chicago

Mary Berry, Assistant Secretary for Education, has resigned as Chancellor of the University of Colorado to aid allegations of a "conflict of responsibility".

Dr Berry, the highest education official after Mr Joseph Califano (the Secretary, has been on a year's leave of absence from the university while she is working in Washington.

This arrangement was approved by the university's president, but it was never popular with the teaching staff who believed the chancellorship should be a full-time job.

Dr Berry originally insisted that she would not stay more than a year in Washington, but recently has been talking about remaining for as long as she was needed.

In a statement Dr Berry said: "The allegations of conflict of responsibility and dual salaries are utterly false. However, these allegations have resulted in threats of reprisal against the university as well as tension within my Washington office. I find this an untenable situation."

Her resignation will not please the university which appointed her as Chancellor only last summer after one of the most expensive and lengthy selection procedures it has ever undertaken.

### Apartheid sit-in

Police arrested 294 students of Stanford University for this month during a remarkably amicable demonstration against the university's policy over shares in South Africa. The students occupied a university building. Their message was the largest ever at Stanford.

Argument over South African shares has been steadily increasing at Stanford, and the senate has held hearings on the university's investment policies.

### Harvard and Radcliffe sign accord

Harvard University and its sister institution, Radcliffe College, have negotiated a relationship between them. The new agreement reaffirms Radcliffe's corporate status, emphasizes that the college will retain ownership of all its property and restores in it full financial responsibility for its own operations.

The agreement replaces the 1943 one, which originally opened Harvard's undergraduate courses to women students, and also the 1971 amendment to it.

Under the new agreement Harvard will be responsible for most undergraduate education for men and women, and Radcliffe will turn over to the university all income relating to this function.

Some provisions will be "Radcliffe-retained", over which the women's college will have control. And two programmes will be jointly funded and administered: a new research unit dealing with the education and role of women and the Harvard-Radcliffe Office for the Arts.

Undergraduate women will continue to be admitted to and enrolled in Radcliffe, and will thereby be enrolled at Harvard "with all the rights and privileges accorded to Harvard College enrollees". The joint admissions office will continue to admit undergraduates to their respective colleges under an equal access admissions policy.

Although Harvard and Radcliffe remain two separate institutions, they are so intertwined that there is now virtually complete coordination in Cambridge. There have been movements to reassert the independence of women's colleges in America, but this new agreement strengthens rather than weakens the link between the two.

### Annenberg arts centre switch

A \$40m fine arts centre which was abruptly withdrawn by its potential donor a few months ago from New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art may be headed to the University of Pennsylvania.

The centre was proposed for the Metropolitan by Mr Walter Annenberg, a former American ambassador to Britain. But he cancelled the offer when the museum began to question the plans for the centre.

Pennsylvania, which Mr Annenberg attended, has now proposed a similar, though broader, programme for "visual education". It already has an Annenberg School of Communications and now proposes a centre for the "recording, dissemination, and educational utilization of the fine arts and mass communications using television and films."

This differs slightly from the proposed Metropolitan centre which was to disseminate information about the fine arts to mass audiences using television and films.

### Blacks 'just as intelligent as whites'

Blacks must cast off their intellectual inferiority complex and reject the racist insinuation that they were not the intellectual peers of white people, one of the top black leaders in the government said in a recent communication. Address at Howard University in Washington, one of America's best black universities.

Mr Wade McCree, the Solicitor General, said blacks' self-doubt and deprecation had been fed by the theories of Professor Arthur Jensen and by the fact that black people were genetically less intelligent than certain so-called higher forms of mental activity than were whites.

The expectation that blacks would not measure up had become a self-fulfilling prophecy, Mr McCree said. This was shown by comparative college and professional school admission tests scores and by civil service and private sector employment examination results.

"I am familiar with the conventional explanation that the depression of America's black population is due to the difference, but I cannot accept this rationalization as the full response. We must cast off the psychological shackles that still inhibit us just as we shed our physical chains of emancipation over a century ago", he said.

He said blacks should not tolerate leadership performance in school. "Standard English is the American standard, and other people who were total strangers to the English language have mastered it in a single generation. We must reject the self-deprecating perpetuation of second-class status that results from teaching our children 'black English'."

Meanwhile, a new book has just been published by Dr Paul Ehrlich, the Stanford University ecologist, which rebuts, point by point, the racialist argument that blacks are intellectually inferior to whites. The book, *The Race Bomb: Skin Color, Prejudice and Intelligence*, explains in particular the theories of Professor Jensen and Professor William Shockley.

Dr Ehrlich and his co-author, Dr Shirley Feldman, a Stanford psychologist, write the exclusive reliance on intelligence tests, which they say favour those brought up

### Major boosts for environmentalists

Universities all over America are being encouraged to contribute more to research into the environment. The Ford Foundation has just announced a grant of \$750,000 to stimulate university research in this field. The National Science Foundation will give grants to over 500 students this summer to pay for environmental projects, and more and more government money is available for specific environmental research projects.

The Ford money is to analyze the research projects are playing in environmental management. The Foundation said states would be making vital decisions in the next five to 10 years in this field, and it urged universities for contributing to this job.

It hopes the 10 to 15 competitive grants will encourage analysis of pollution control, the use and conservation of energy resources, land-use regulation and population growth, and the management of solid wastes and hazardous materials.

In particular Ford wants to encourage projects that use not only traditional research patterns, but also experimental ways of getting universities to work with government agencies. It suggests, for example, teachers working in state agencies for a year, periodic university-government seminars and joint curriculum advisory panels that would regularly meet state agencies.

The National Science Foundation is giving almost \$1m to 64 environmental projects planned and directed by students. This comes under a scheme called the Student-Organized Studies programme, which encourages students to tackle real-life research problems through interdisciplinary team work. Past independent student work has proved very successful: the scheme has been going now seven years.

Each project is conducted under the leadership of a student who serves as its director. Students, mainly undergraduates, spend 10 or 12 weeks on the project, usually during the summer break, and are paid up to \$90 a week by the National Science Foundation.

Some 278 projects were submitted for the competition by students this year. Review panels selected 600 students and lecturers picked 64 for funding; 18 are directed by women.

These going ahead this summer include:

Analysing the Alabama loblolly pine's bark. The pine is used for making paper, and the bark accumulates in large amounts. Alabama University students will investigate processes for conversion of the bark's constituents into commercial chemicals.

A survey of the transport needs of the elderly in urban and rural areas by Northern Kentucky University students.

Study of the use of the water hyacinth as a purifying agent in waste water treatment, livestock feed, a source of methane gas and as a fertilizer. This is being done by students at Sam Houston State University in Texas.

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### More autonomy urged for the regions

A controversial report by the Parliamentary Committee for Social, Cultural and Family Affairs has called for the setting up of regional committees of higher education.

PARIS

One of the most important areas in the field of universities is changes between universities in the member states of the Common Market. This, the committee noted, was one of the key features of university policy, yet it has received only the scantiest attention.

Additionally, substantial changes in the mechanism of student representation are proposed. At present, the number of students' representatives on university councils depends on the turnover of students. The result of this electoral curbsure over the past few years has been steadily to reduce the numbers of students on these bodies. And the trend is towards even a greater student participation. In 1974/75 the turnout was no more than 25.5 per cent of the electorate. It was 27.9 per cent in 1975/76.

Equally significant, however, are the proposals to divide the country up into a series of regional university catchment areas. The result of this electoral curbsure over the past few years has been steadily to reduce the numbers of students on these bodies. And the trend is towards even a greater student participation. In 1974/75 the turnout was no more than 25.5 per cent of the electorate. It was 27.9 per cent in 1975/76.

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### Occupations called off

STOCKHOLM

Students returned to their studies last week after the Danish National Union of Students' executive was expectedly accepted defeat and the abrupt termination of university buildings, taken over in support of protesting colleagues of Roskilde University Centre (THES, May 20).

The executive reached its decision because of the consistent refusal by the Education Minister, Mrs Rita Bjerggaard, to intervene in the dispute and the imminence of end-of-year exams.

Occupations and lesson boycotts, which involved more than 2,000 students, had been organized against the decision of the government and Roskilde's three external reactors to take the two-year basic course at the centre's social science faculty.

Disrupters are now taking place as a compromise whereby social science intake would be postponed until next February.

### More adult learners

The number of Swedes taking part in the adult study circles has increased by 7 per cent to 2,543,000 - equivalent to 40.4 per cent of all over-15s - during the year. There were 272,000 members studying 30 hours.

### 'Unofficial union' is set up

Poland

A "rebel" national students' union has been set up in Poland, it was reported from Warsaw last week.

It was said that the new organization will work closely with the Workers' Defence Committee, the group of largely anti-government intellectuals and artists which was created in the wake of the trials of workers following last June's food price riots in Radom and Ursus.

Four leading members of the Defence Committee are currently being held by the police; so far, however, there are no indications that any of the breakaway students have been harassed.

The new student body was proclaimed after reported demonstrations by 10,000 students in the ancient university city of Cracow.

The students had been mourning the death of literature student Stanislaw Pyjas, a campus activist on behalf of the Defence Committee. Pyjas' body, badly beaten up, was found two weeks ago. The police said he had been involved in a drunken brawl but his friends claimed he had been murdered because of his political sympathies.

Whatever the truth of the matter (and the authorities have adopted a noticeably lewky response to disbelievers) the past and whatever the status of the fledgling independent student union, the last of student protest in itself is unusual.

The last time students took to the streets in any numbers was in the disturbances of 1968. They demonstrated against the protests in 1970 which brought Mr Giersek to power and from last summer's riots.

There are several reasons for the traditional student lack of protest: competition for coveted university places is keen—and those who gain entry are well supported by grants and are guaranteed good jobs on graduation.

In addition, although there are no overt tests of political suitability on applicants, there is little doubt that school involvement in the activities of young Communist organizations inevitably counts for a great deal.

Many students, too, would genuinely point to the expansion of individual freedom since the beginning of the Giersek regime.

It is argued, therefore, that there must be serious underlying grievances for last week's unrest to have surfaced so openly.

### Students take to streets again after nearly a decade

Brazil

After almost 10 years of quiescence, students in Brazil have been taking direct political action during the past weeks. The first student march since 1969 was mounted last month to protest against cuts of 35 per cent in the budget of the massive University of Sao Paulo. The authorities decided to stiffle this march of 3,000 students, but to do so the city was brought to a virtual halt for the day.

Four students and four workers were arrested on April 28 for disrupting lectures and were held for 10 days giving rise to fears about their safety. To protest against this, the first major public meeting, again for the past nine years, was held at the Catholic University two days later. About 50,000 students held speakers call for an end to torture, freeing of political prisoners, and an amnesty for exiles.

At another meeting, at the Sao Paulo law faculty, some 7,000 students gathered to hear an open letter read out, and when their numbers swelled to some 10,000, they set off towards the city's main square. They were met by tear gas and a strong force of police. They later dispersed without further incident.

There have been mass meetings at the universities in Rio de Janeiro and Belo Horizonte, and in the interior of Sao Paulo state. All 60,000 students at the various universities of Sao Paulo state have been already occurred.

### Editor censured for 'extremism'

Australia

The national executive of the Australian Union of Students has censured the editor of the union's official publication for a dispute over editorial policy.

The editor of the *National U* was accused of supporting a left-wing extremist group trying to take control of the A.U.S. At a two-day meeting in Melbourne the executive censured him several times in various motions relating to his position.

### Maximum grants go up by 15pc

West Germany

Maximum awards payable to pupils and students have gone up by 15 per cent with effect from April 1 to DM480 a month (€120) for home-based students and DM580 a month (€145) to students living away from home. From October 1, there will also be an increase in the amount of allowances deductible from the net parental income before parental contributions are determined.

In conjunction with this long overdue revision of the level of grants the federal government has published a review of the impact and effectiveness of the grant legislation since its introduction in 1971. Except for the year 1976, when the adjustment of the level of allowances and parental allowances was postponed to save public expenditure, the number of students in receipt of a grant has risen year by year, from 270,000 in 1972 to 334,000 in 1975 (1976: 320,000).

On the other hand the number of these students as a percentage of the total student population fell after an initial peak of 46 per cent in 1973 to 42 per cent in 1975 and 38 per cent in 1976.

There is a marked difference in these percentages between students at advanced vocational colleges. While in the former type of institution only 32.8 per cent of students qualified for grants in 1976, 62.6 per cent of students at Fachhochschulen did.

This reflects the much higher percentage of students from working-class homes at these colleges (28 per cent compared to universities (13 per cent). It underlines the fact that in the Federal Republic the universities, through much more expensive new, are still largely middle-class dominated institutions.

The university figures show that 60 per cent of the children of semi-skilled workers and 61 per cent of those of the ordinary and middle grades of civil servants get grants. This point is emphasized when one looks at the level of school qualification reached by a student's father, which is usually a reliable guide to his level of income.

The fathers of 41 per cent of all university students have no secondary education beyond the minimum compulsory school leaving age but, asking the fathers of the recipients of grants only, this percentage rises to 58.

The survey also applies: the fathers of 34 per cent of all university students have passed the *Abitur* examination, which qualifies for access to higher education, but only 17 per cent have this qualification in the case of grant-supported students.

The Ministry of Education argues from these figures that, while the situation is still unsatisfactory, the grant legislation is working in the right direction.

However, the latest sample survey of the German Student Welfare Offices in the east of living for students has confirmed that considerable hardship was caused by last year's decision not to raise grants and adjust upwards the allowances set against parental income.

The survey also reveals that the percentage of students living solely on their grant dropped from 39 in 1973 to 30 in 1976.

### Dispute over earthquake area campus

Italy

A decision by the Italian government to found a new university at Udine in the earthquake-stricken region of Friuli has provoked bitter protests from Trieste University, 50 miles away.

The plan for a small university at Udine, with a limited number of faculties, was included in a large number of measures announced recently to rebuild the devastated region and put it on a sounder economic and cultural basis.

Friuli, which makes up part of the semi-autonomous region of Friuli-Venezia Giulia, has long been an underprivileged area. The earthquake destroyed what modest progress had been made in recent years.

The region is the most populous area in Italy without its own university, having 930,000 inhabitants and another 700,000 emigrants hoping one day to return. It has the lowest percentage of university graduates and the highest of young people who leave school after compulsory education ends at 14.

Even before the earthquake, a campaign was afoot to press for a new university to become an important centre for advanced scientific and technological research. Trieste University said that Udine would duplicate many courses available at Trieste. And he objected to taking away Trieste's language faculty.

He also fears that a new university would interfere with plans for Trieste University to become an important centre for advanced scientific and technological research. Trieste University said that Udine would duplicate many courses available at Trieste. And he objected to taking away Trieste's language faculty.

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# BOOKS

## Getting back to nature

**Behind the Mirror: A Search for a Natural History of Human Knowledge**  
by Konrad Lorenz  
Methuen, £4.90 and £2.75  
ISBN 0 416 94270 9 and 94280 6

The 50 years since his first published paper have brought Konrad Lorenz a Nobel prize and a storm of controversy. Both spring from his animal observation of the living world and his infatuation as a child in the study of nature. In *Behind the Mirror* he sees himself to consider human understanding "in the same way as any other phylogenetically evolved function which serves the purposes of survival". The aim is to explain and to prescribe and, as in *On Aggression*, all turns on continuities between natural animal life and civilization.

The essence of what we call the human mind resides in a supra-individual synthesis of knowledge, volition and skill produced by the human faculty for accumulating transmitted knowledge. The resulting entity, however, is itself a living organism, synthesized from other simpler living organisms, and however supreme it may appear, it shares with them an ineluctable fate—namely, that, like all living organisms, the human mind, and thus human civilization, can suffer from malfunction. Both can become sick. So it is not only the scientist but also the doctor who, for other and more urgent reasons, calls for a scientific picture of man.

But the doctor's task proved too important for a single volume, he says, and is postponed. This book offers the scientific picture of man.

Its arguments start from just enough of an account of animals to set us off. These glimpses attest Lorenz's love of his subject, the leucity and complexity he finds in them. They bring the text to life but the argument does not depend on them. It depends on whether an evolutionary version of Kantian epistemology will let him reject reductionism and behaviourism without placing man and society apart from nature.

Against reductionism, construed as the claim that complex systems are more compounds, he argues for emergent qualities. "No system on a higher level of integration can be deduced from a lower system because, whenever two independent systems are combined, wholly new characteristics can develop." The jungle cells which together perform the highest intellectual function of the brain are individually far inferior to the amoeba. In every synthesis there is always a *fulguratio*, a "creative flash", signifying a change not of degree but of essence.

Against behaviourism he holds that what emerges from a synthesis depends on what is innate. This "imprinting" (the irreversible fixation of a response) cannot be explained solely by the conditioning process. What Hume did not know and modern behaviourists do not want to know is that all adaptation is a cognitive process presupposing "a vast amount of phylogenetically acquired information stored in the genes *a priori*"—they were there before all learning and must be there for learning to be possible.

All adaptation being a cognitive process, conceptual thought is not peculiar to man. It requires syntactical language, cumulative tradition, voluntary movement, learning through imitation and (for its ostensible forms) powers of abstraction, supra-individual knowledge, foresight of consequences and moral responsibility. Yet all exploratory animals, which are "open to the world" have it. A raven piling its bill into adducts is trying not to eat what it finds but to determine what is edible. Human thought is only more complex. "The creation of man is the creative flash of an individual tradition and the cerebrum is its organ."

A final theme, potentially important but only intermittently aired, is that the unit of analysis is not individual men but cultures extended in space and time. Although too diverse in the subject in a single principle, they have invariant elements, "phylogenetically programmed and genetically specified". Evolution does not so much install what is supra-individual in civilization as activate it.

This summary should suggest virtues and sins in Lorenz's case. The virtues are those of a humanist and wise ecologist, who is not so all tempted to present men as naked opas with territorial imperatives and other such crass urges. Nor being a believer in instincts, does he suppose that mere empirical study will reveal the workings of nature. In painting an intricate portrait of animals and advancing under Kantian auspices, he escapes some common criticisms against animal ethologists of the 1950s. As he writes the whole system, Lorenz remarks that Pavlov's dogs learnt not just in salivatic but to exhibit motor patterns of begging. Well, yes, but is this begging as human beggars beg, say for money? Similarly, he builds the adult's smile; old crows recent change in routine and so gentle old men; grazing ruminants and people looking for mushrooms display kina-kinesis. Such juxtapositions are frequent and suggest rules, conventions, intentions and other aspects of meaning something are not peculiar to man. But should they? Consider this typical sentence, "Knowledge



Professor Konrad Lorenz

cannot be stored in any other form than in structure, whether this be the chain molecules of the ganglion cells of the brain or the letters in a textbook." I found nothing in the book to show that cells and letters form a relevantly similar structure, nor, in general, that the *fulguratio* is a "creative flash" bestowed in a sense by all emergent qualities, is comparable in usefulness and man.

Third, there are typically supra-individual concepts like "tradition", "civilization" and especially "culture". No doubt they can be applied to animal behaviour but this is in itself no more evidence of continuity than is the fact that cows and philosophers both count. Proof of continuity would need a precise analysis of the notion of human culture and a case for applying its central features to animals. Lorenz gives neither. Indeed, by the standards he sets for animal observation, his few instances of human interaction are casual in the extreme. He seems to regard social life in man and animals as basically a matter of on and off, with nothing with what is stored in the genome. If so, sociologists will justify prurice

of the rolicular formation in the medulla conveys little of present knowledge, and I looked in vain for some discussion of the relationship of this area to sleep and arousal, and to the varying occurrence of sleep in lower forms.

The book has evidently been in preparation for at least 10 years, for in many sections references up to 1967 are numerous, and later notable in the section on the hypothalamic releasing factors affecting the secretion of pituitary hormones, where the latest reference is for 1970, and the major discoveries concerning their isolation, synthesis and distribution that followed were after it. There is no death of material for discussion.

The *Vertebrate Brain* will have its greatest value to those with some understanding of vertebrate neuroanatomy and brain function seeking a broader perspective, and is not recommended for the novice.

## A broad perspective on the brain

**The Vertebrate Brain**  
by Ronald Fearon and Lindsay Pearson  
Academic Press, £23.00  
ISBN 0 12 548060 1

To provide a panoramic survey of the studies of biochemists, endocrinologists, ethologists, histologists, neuroanatomists, neurophysiologists, pharmacologists and zoologists on the vertebrate brain is an awesome task indeed, but that is the aim of the present work. Inevitably, it is not a book to be read from cover to cover, but rather to be dipped into, for it is the unexpected that is important. I was delighted to learn that turtles produce sounds during mating, and to discover the Winkler, a cartilaginous structure in birds concerned with vision and hearing. Electrical stimulation of this region causes various effects, including head and neck movements, swallow-

ing, feather ruffling, in the beak area and pupillary changes. No attempt is made to put a case, or to express a particular point of view, but the book is likely to be attacked or praised, by a politico-biologist. However, the lack of a conceptual framework is regrettable, for the selection of material appears to be somewhat arbitrary and is difficult to discern the basis for choice. Thus, in dealing with the mid-brain of reptiles, experimental information from just four papers is quoted. Does this paucity of information really reflect a lack of physiological interest?

And then the biochemical material is curious in character, with the distribution of copper, magnesium and zinc within the brain of the pig being featured in a table for an very obvious reason, particularly as it is emphasized that the concentrations of these metals vary between species. This is hardly the place to look for a summary of the

distribution of cytochrome C in the human brain, but there is one. The reactions of diurons in the medulla to blood pressure variations need not be detailed, and a table illustrating the distribution of various lipids in the cerebellar cortex of the monkey is of little value. There is also the bald statement that all mammals seem to have sites of serotonin synthesis in the rophic, and that in the greater squirrel the concentration is greater in females, and falls on entering liberation. But there is no hint of the possible function of serotonin in relation to sleep, or as an important component of the monoaminergic systems of the brain, and a search for other references was frustrated by the attention of serotonin in the avian mid-brain leaves the reader mystified about the possible physiological function of these compounds and it is perhaps as well that this material is also not indexed. Similarly, the section on experimental studies

of the rolicular formation in the medulla conveys little of present knowledge, and I looked in vain for some discussion of the relationship of this area to sleep and arousal, and to the varying occurrence of sleep in lower forms.

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# BOOKS

## Measuring up for size

**Worldwide Variation in Human Growth**  
by Phyllis B. Eveleth and J. M. Tanner  
Cambridge University Press, £20.00  
ISBN 0 521 20806 8

The measuring of the growing child has become something of a ritual in societies like ours. In school and health clinics the recording of a child's height and weight is an invariable rite to seeing the doctor or nurse.

Despite the apparent simplicity, body measurements require great skill in their taking. One of the world's centres of this skill is the department of growth and development at the Institute of Child Health, London, and during the course of the International Biological Programme—a 10-year programme of international cooperation in research into all aspects of ecology—this department, under the leadership of Professor J. M. Tanner, acted as the reference centre for all human growth studies. Here advice was given to members on what measurements could most usefully be made, and how they should be taken, when the doctor later acted as a repository

for data and undertook the comparative analysis which this book records. In the IBP 340 growth projects were made in 42 countries and the analysis is not limited to these but also embraces some major non-IBP studies.

The book, therefore, provides the most comprehensive examination of patterns of human growth that has ever been made. Coverage really is world-wide and information on Europeans in and out of Europe, Africans and Asians, both in their own continents and in the Americas, Australian aborigines and Pacific Islanders and many other groups is presented. This is of great anthropological interest, but it is also of immense medical value, since, although the widespread folk belief that "big is good" needs many qualifications, it is certainly true that the rate of growth at any stage of an individual's development is a sensitive indicator of overall health at that time; and that size, the product of cumulative growth, reflects better than anything else the quality of preceding biological experience.

Many features of growth and maturation are highly dependent on such environmental conditions as hygiene, child care, stress and parental care, and the authors therefore include members of their families. The evidence has been carefully analysed, and the authors are refreshingly (and appropriately) honest about the problems encountered in field work for this sort of study.

By the age in question roughly a quarter of the boys had a criminal record, mainly for dishonesty, and 16 per cent had more than one conviction. It was therefore possible to compare aspects of the background and behaviour of the delinquents and the non-delinquents and to take into account the level of delinquency activity. The picture that emerges is very much in accord with established views of what young delinquents are like. Judging by their own accounts they are less conforming and less socially restrained than their non-delinquent peers; this shows itself in their smoking, drinking, gambling and sexual habits, their education and work history, the way they spend their leisure time, and their relationship with their family. Of particular note are the unusually aggressive attitudes and delinquent behaviour of the delinquent group. There was also a strong family association, delinquents being more likely to have parents or siblings with a conviction.

While acknowledging that the research approach employed does not allow for the adoption of any one explanation at the expense of others the authors choose to see delinquency phenomena as the product of emphasizing the effects of social forces. In doing so they appear to minimize the complex and interactive relationship between social characteristics and the broader social context.

An acceptance of some of the authors' interpretations would have been easier had I felt that they had an affinity for the young people whose lives they have investigated in such detail. Although they cite David Matza in support of the need for researchers to "remain true to the phenomena under study" this seems to be contradicted by aspects of their own approach and presentation, for instance, the convention of referring to the youths as numbered cases. A more explicit and insightful representation of their world would lead to a reappraisal of the evidence they present.

G. Ainsworth Harrison

## Juvenile delinquency

**The Delinquent Way of Life**  
by D. J. West and D. P. Farrington  
Macmillan Educational, £6.00  
ISBN 0 435 82935 1

The nature and origins of delinquent behaviour have been studied for a number of contrasting ways ranging from the analysis of official statistics to the observations and interpretations of the dedicated researcher who becomes absorbed into a delinquent gang, and whose assumptions lying behind the choice of approach are quite different from those of the official researcher.

A good example of one such approach is the longitudinal study by Donald West and his colleagues which has followed a sample of 500 boys from a working class area in London since they were eight years old. This book reports the results of the research, and its findings are based on interviews with the boys, and a sample of 500 matched for verbal intelligence were 18 or 19. The team also had access to the criminal records, where applicable, of the boys and

members of their families. The evidence has been carefully analysed, and the authors are refreshingly (and appropriately) honest about the problems encountered in field work for this sort of study.

By the age in question roughly a quarter of the boys had a criminal record, mainly for dishonesty, and 16 per cent had more than one conviction. It was therefore possible to compare aspects of the background and behaviour of the delinquents and the non-delinquents and to take into account the level of delinquency activity. The picture that emerges is very much in accord with established views of what young delinquents are like. Judging by their own accounts they are less conforming and less socially restrained than their non-delinquent peers; this shows itself in their smoking, drinking, gambling and sexual habits, their education and work history, the way they spend their leisure time, and their relationship with their family. Of particular note are the unusually aggressive attitudes and delinquent behaviour of the delinquent group. There was also a strong family association, delinquents being more likely to have parents or siblings with a conviction.

Peter Barnes

## Language and social meaning

**Context**  
by Diana S. Adlam with the assistance of Geoffrey Turner and Lesley Kegan Paul, £6.25  
ISBN 0 1100 8481 1

**Language in the Inner City: Studies in the Black English Vernacular**  
by William Labov  
Methuen, £10.00  
ISBN 0 611 17670 5

The contribution by Adlam and her colleagues forms the ninth unit in the Primary Socialisation, Language and Education series. It is the first of two; it is billed as both theoretical and empirical, and is based on the contributions of Bernstein's investigations of the courtship of the language produced in the children housed in great part on Halliday's network system and concentration on successives in meaning; on the other hand, in particular the notion of explicitness and cohesion. It is difficult to over-emphasize the sheer value to be gained from reading these studies. They deserve to stand in their own right as contributions to crosslinguistic research, and that is not how they are presented. Rather they are presented as empirical and contextual supporters of social class differences in language performance. And as such they worth looking at what emerges if they are seen as language differences in

concerned.

They find for example that in talking about the Tootin pictures there is no significant difference between the children in amount of speech; and it is requested that in some contexts (or situations) the lower-working-class children talked more than the middle-class children. They did find consistency as five years old, and even more so at seven years, that middle-class children were more explicit than working-class children not only when both the researcher and the child were looking at the pictures (as in the "Tootin context") but also in the other contexts used in the interview. Much of the ensuing analysis makes delicate probes into explicitness and show to my cartilage satisfaction that middle-class children are more explicit, use a wider frame of reference and are likely to generalize more than lower-working-class children in the five contexts discussed. But it is still worth pointing out that although these contexts can be seen and described separately by adult researchers, all the contexts took place in a formally structured interview and may not have been seen as so different by the children.

We are left at the end of this book with the notion that there are at least two main ways of employing a structure of meanings and realizing language from that structure.

A lack of education is something we can make provision for relatively easily; and so Bernstein's theory no longer has that awful deterministic ring about it.

Labov's *Language in the Inner City* is the first English edition of the book published in 1972. Labov, in a series of innovative studies, gives us an unrivalled overall picture of Black English Vernacular as used in New York in relation to other dialects of English. He shows conclusively that BEV has a complex rule structure which is in some cases more complex than Standard English; he develops a theory of variability using the detailed analysis of the copula and the negative in BEV; in terms of the educational needs of the children of the inner city he shows that it is no good to plan any intervention programme on the assumption that the black children are verbally deprived; indeed he indicates that they have a rich variety of language in their command in his studies of fluid usage and narrative. This book is an enduring monument to careful scholarship in the area of sociolinguistics with its impeccable methodology, contribution to the theories of variability, verbal interaction, discourse analysis, and its important note of caution for the education of dialect groups.

Sinclair Rogers

Corinne Hutt



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## BOOKS

### Blue-collar profession

**Chemists by Professor: The Origins and Rise of the Royal Institute of Chemistry**  
by Colin A. Russell, Noel G. Coley and Gerylyn K. Roberts  
Owen University Press, £9.50  
ISBN 0 335 00041 X

Historians of science have recently become increasingly interested in the emergence of the professional scientist. In the development of modern science one of the crucial changes from the old pattern of dilettante amateur science has been the support given to the study of nature as a full-time occupation by selected individuals after specialist training. In the 19th century this science became an occupation rather than a hobby. In France this change came after the French Revolution but in Britain the idea of gentleman being paid to undertake scientific work did not find favour until the Charles Babbage could claim in 1830: 'The pursuit of sciences does not, in England, constitute a distinct profession, as it does in many other countries.'

The possibility of a career in science brought with it problems of qualifications and the control of standards in some areas such as medicine, pharmacy and chemistry, which had overlapping interests, for example in public health, there arose also a question of demarcation. In nineteenth-century Britain there was not only the problem of whether to employ a specialist but which specialist. This brings us to a further aspect of professionalization which could involve something akin to industrialization. When analytical chemists found that work which they considered themselves best qualified to do was early taken over by medically trained pharmacists on the one hand or by sanitary engineers on the other, they felt that some association was necessary to safeguard their interests. The Chemical Society of London, founded in 1841, might have fulfilled this need, but there had not been an enlightening membership of that society. Some chemists tried to use their membership of the society (RCS) as a qualification, whereas the primary aim of the society was to promote the general advancement of chemical knowledge and publish a journal. The subject of this book, The Institute of Chemistry, was in a sense a breakaway organization in so far as it represented the commercial and industrial wing of chemists who grew impatient with academic colleagues who took their status for granted and were principally concerned with contributing to scientific knowledge.

In seeking a new status for the chemist the Institute of Chemistry had to fight with the English language which used the same word for the analytical and industrial chemist and the apocryphal, whereas the French distinguished the latter as pharmacien, the latter as formateur and the German as Apotheker, the British public continued to be confused about what a chemist was. Indeed, according to the Pharmacy Act of 1868, the

term chemist in the label 'chemist and druggist' was reserved for someone who had passed an examination of the Pharmaceutical Society. The problem of terminology reinforces my feeling that the organization of British scientific trade associations was something of a special case.

The founding of the institute in 1877 can be related to other movements in contemporary British history including the founding of the Trades Union Congress in 1869. As far as science was concerned, the Paris Exhibition of 1867 had given rise in a general concern with the poor provision for scientific education in this country. The Devonshire Commission was established to investigate, and in its reports of 1872-75 proposed large-scale government support for scientific education. Although the recommendations were not accepted by the government, the publication of the report did bring about considerable discussion on the organization of science in general.

In defining any profession training plays a key role and the facilities for chemical education in nineteenth-century Britain are summarized in this book, with particular emphasis on the Royal College of Chemistry founded in 1845. This was founded as an independent institution by young men in the science of chemistry, which was increasingly recognized to be relevant not only to medicine but to agriculture and industry. Victorian England was then beginning to lay its ambitions generally as a qualification for employment and their widespread use from the 1850s led the *Alumni* in speak of examinations as a *mania*.

In science the University of London degrees and the certificate examination for teachers made an important early contribution. Once the Institute of Chemistry was founded, the definition of professional competence in relation both to university degrees and its own examinations constituted a major part of its work. It was also a matter of justifying university to decide what value should be given to the purely academic training in science given by universities. The Institute emphasized from its very beginning the importance of practical training. Indeed the authors of this book occasionally speak of a professional chemist when they mean an industrial or practical chemist. For the Institute, knowledge of chemical theory could not compensate for poor manipulative skills. Until it received its Royal Charter in 1885 the Institute did not have any legal authority to grant certificates of competence in chemistry but even after that date it never acquired an absolute monopoly of chemical qualifications in this country.

In most histories of chemistry attention is given to rival theories and to the preparation of new compounds. In the history of applied chemistry more attention deserves to be given to the history of analytical chemistry. In this book the authors, by their analysis of drinking water, of town air and of foodstuffs that the nineteenth-century chemist con-

vinced the public that his skills deserved support from and taxes. Chemists have slowly convincing industrialists their raw materials and their products could be improved. The analytical chemist to spend much time on tasks rather than on academic frontiers of knowledge but on his work that the health safety of a community depend. Indeed the foundation of the Society of Public Analysts in 1874 could well have been an organization which chemists (as they called themselves) were looking for. However, society failed to deal with this question of qualifications.

In the later part of the book played by chemists in the World War is discussed. It is a well known example of the science in war although it is not meant the first subject of the purposes of this study, what is noteworthy is the recognition of a particular professional group. This is with a discussion of current trends of integrating the work with the Chemical Society.

Some readers will be disappointed that the book makes reference to the foundation of the Physical Society of London and the subsequent formation of the Institute of Physics. These existing parallels might have been drawn which would have shed light on the whole question of professionalization of scientists in this country. The book could be criticized for its poor presentation of the earlier history of science. However the main sets out to do—provide the history of the Institute of Chemistry of its century—well. It avoids the mistake of saying that nothing happened in 1877 and then giving an arbitrary date to the present day. It gives a series of studies, past and present, which are competent examples of history. The three authors are all specialists in the history of science on the staff of the University, have had the book's services of their own study press and particular help from illustrations. The result is a produced book.

Although it is to be expected that the detailed history of the Institute of Chemistry would be of interest to its members, it would be a pity if information carefully collected in many years did not also have wider audience, including some social and economic historians and educationists. For chemistry and education it should provide a window into a world in which their science has justified its demonstrable utility. For chemists can of course give their own justifications for their work when they think of it in this way. The book is a most opportune.

Maurice Croston

### Radiolytic techniques

**An Introduction to Radiolytic Chemistry**  
by J. W. T. Spinks and R. J. Woods  
Wiley, £15.95  
ISBN 0 471 81670 1

Thirteen years ago Professors Spinks and Woods published the first general textbook on radiolytic chemistry. Much has happened since then: pulse radiolysis has provided a large body of quantitative data on solvated electrons and other short-lived species, radiolytic information on organic systems has expanded enormously and more recently, information on radiolytic processes on a pico-second time scale has become available. This second edition has therefore involved almost complete rewriting. At the time of the first edition the formation of solvated electrons on irradiation of polar solvents had

just gained general acceptance. However, very little quantitative information on the properties of these species had appeared. The technique by which much of the kinetic data has been acquired, pulse radiolysis, had only just been developed and it received but brief mention in the first edition.

The arrangement of the material remains much the same in the new edition, but six chapters have been combined in pairs and a new chapter entitled 'Radiolytic Kinetics' is included. This enables the authors to cover the technique of pulse radiolysis on both the micro-second and pico-second times scales, as well as to discuss the kinetic aspects of radiolytic processes.

The rest of the book text and references is substantial. Only two chapters dealing with ions, excited molecules and radicals, which are now combined, and that dealing with the radiolysis of solids, appear

to have escaped attention. The latter chapter is, perhaps, the least satisfactory of a generally excellent treatment.

The two most important chapters which deal with the radiolysis of water and aqueous solutions of organic compounds, have been completely rewritten. Nearly 1,100 references have been added between the two editions, there is at least one reference to each paper published in 1975. The chapter on the applications of radiation chemistry gives an up-to-date account of the progress of this kind of work. The applications of radiation chemistry are now more numerous than ever before and the book is a valuable guide to the literature of this subject.

A. G. Marshall

## BOOKS

### What chemists do

**New Worlds in Chemistry**  
by Martin Sherwood  
Faber & Faber, £6.95  
ISBN 0 571 10753 2

The public has a right to call upon scientists for an explanation of what they are doing and why they are doing it (Sherwood). Martin Sherwood who is editor of *Chemistry and Industry* and was previously science policy editor of *New Scientist*, has written a book which undoubtedly represents an important contribution to informing the public about the major lines of development in modern chemistry.

After two chapters in which he outlines some of the basic principles of chemistry together with the instrumental techniques which are available to the modern chemist, he describes, in some detail, the contribution of chemistry to current investigations into how life on this planet began, the understanding of living systems and the continued development of the petrochemical industry. But perhaps even more fascinating than his description of the investigations in his account of chemistry's contribution to these areas during the last 50 years, one is continually reminded of the part played by individuals, their brilliance, their dedication and their chance discoveries. The author is successful in showing chemistry to be an exciting and challenging human activity one can share in the excitement of the race to synthesize insulin or the regret that the discoverer of polythene was not that person to recognize its potential and develop it.

The author then illustrates the 'ubiquity of modern chemistry' with sections dealing with more specific lines of development such as glass technology, silicones, sources of energy, tribology, food chemistry, synthetic drugs and chemistry in art. Thus in the nine chapters one may find references to such diverse topics as plastic synthesis, Ziegler catalysis, photochromic glass and theralumilites.

John Lazonby

### Molecular matters

**The Identification of Molecular Spectra**  
by R. W. B. Pearse and A. G. Gaydon  
Chapman & Hall, £20.00  
ISBN 0 412 14350 X

Spectroscopy has been of central importance in physical science for the past 50 years. It provided the impetus for the development of the quantum theory of atoms and the interplay between theory and experiment continues to the present day. Most of our detailed knowledge of the structure of small molecules and the forces which hold them together has been derived from the analyses of spectra. Furthermore, spectroscopy is a powerful analytical tool. The spectrum of a molecule is its most characteristic physical property, particularly when this spectrum consists of bands with distinct line structure. The observation of such a spectrum not only confirms the presence of a particular molecule, even in such remote sources as comets, but its detailed appearance is highly sensitive to its environment. Consequently molecular spectroscopy has been used for determining the composition, environment and evolution of matter in such disparate fields as astrophysics, upper atmospheric chemistry, electrical discharges, combustion, chemical kinetics and pollution.

Ever since the publication of its first edition in 1941 Pearse and Gaydon's *The Identification of Molecular Spectra* has been an invaluable guidebook for countless users of spectroscopic methods. The book was prepared with the aim of being a practical guide to the identification of molecules and radicals, which are now securely established.

The fourth edition will prove as useful and essential to future spectroscopists as the earlier editions have been in the past. The accompanying text is almost exclusively concerned with practical hints on the production and identification of the spectra of diatomic molecules, particularly emission from flames, discharges, glow tubes and shock tubes, using photographic recording. To some extent this aspect of the book is dated, since the main stream of spectroscopic research is rapidly changing. Even so, I am sure that this fourth edition will prove as useful and essential to future spectroscopists as the earlier editions have been in the past.

R. N. Dixon

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# THE CHEMICAL SOCIETY

# BOOKS

## Theory catches up

Frontier Orbitals and Organic Chemical Reactions by Ian Fleming Wiley, £8.95 and £3.95 ISBN 0 471 01820 1 and 01819 8

Paradoxically it has been one of the less satisfactory features of organic chemistry that an enormously successful start, based on essentially pragmatic considerations and accelerated by growing experience, resulted in practice far outstripping any fundamental theoretical principles. Only in quite recent times has theory begun to catch up; even then it has frequently been beyond the mental reach of most organic chemists, and often restricted in its application to relatively simple molecules.

Molecular orbital theory has gone some way to remedy the deficiency, but many—probably the majority—of practising organic chemists have still felt reservations, or experienced difficulties, in its use. The possibility of simplification came with the perturbational treatment of MO theory by Coulson and Longuet-Higgins, and its actual realization through the frontier orbital theory of Fukui. In his new book, Dr Fleming has brought this latter treatment within the reasonable compass of all organic chemists.

The book begins with a short, very helpful, chapter on molecular orbitals and frontier orbitals, followed by consideration of ionic reactions, thermal pericyclic reactions, radical reactions, and photochemical reactions. One, but only one, of the great merits of this book

is the enormous range of different theoretical situations that it covers. For the biggest chapter is that on thermal pericyclic reactions, and one would perhaps have liked to see a little less coverage on this topic, and correspondingly more on some of the others. The author defers his choice, and understandably, on grounds of the firmness of frontier orbital theory in this field. Among the many cases considered under this head is the Diels-Alder reaction, which receives an extremely thorough and interesting treatment, illuminating considerably what has been a pretty confused situation in the past. A good deal of simplification is also brought to the general study of radical reactions, not least to radical substitution of aromatic systems, another slightly "sticky" area. Use of the Klopman-Salem equation leads to a more satisfactory feeling for the underlying chemical significance of hardness and softness in acids (electrophiles) and bases (nucleophiles), and this equation is also employed widely in discussing relative reactivity in other species. One does not want to give the impression that the book is light reading; rather Fleming writes extremely clearly and precisely, and his explanations are always thorough and convincing. He has gone to a great deal of trouble over the layout of the book, and the general arrangement and representation of reaction schemes, orbital diagrams and orbital coefficients is unusually good. This is an important book which no self-respecting organic chemist can afford to be without.

Peter Sykes

## Ubiquitous principles

Elements of Physical Chemistry by J. William Moore and W. H. Jones Addison-Wesley, £12.80 ISBN 0 201 04897 3

In a central and established scientific discipline such as physical chemistry, a considerable range of topics may be covered in undergraduate courses. Consequently, it has become extremely difficult to prepare a single text which not only clearly presents the basic of the subject but also illustrates their use in pure and applied research. Various solutions to this dilemma have been tried. W. J. Moore's *Physical Chemistry*, which has served several generations of undergraduates, has been expanded to formidable proportions in its latest edition. Oxford University Press, on the other hand, have commissioned a large number of short texts, each dealing concisely with a particular area in the field, allowing students to build up a library gradually as their course proceeds. Moore and Jones's book would provide part of a third alternative.

Their book makes no claim to be a comprehensive undergraduate text. Indeed, the proclaimed objective is to supply the needs of undergraduates in North America, who are taking chemistry as a subsidiary option, especially the large number hoping to enter medical school. There is not a large, special market of this kind in Britain. However, a book describing the "classics" of physical chemistry could be valuable to first-year university students, who could subsequently expand their libraries by judiciously buying shorter texts on particular topics. This review has been

written with this potential use in mind. Moore and Jones consider their subject matter under three main headings: thermodynamics, reaction kinetics and quantum mechanics. In order, the three parts are written independently, so little would be lost by reading them in a different sequence. The text is very well written, with virtually all the ideas expressed clearly and concisely. There is liberal provision of both well-chosen, worked examples and questions for the reader to stir up his understanding of the subject matter of many of these reflect the medial bias of the potential reader, but do demonstrate how the physical principles of chemistry can be applied to a wide range of problems. Just occasionally, the search for simplicity leads to unnecessary, and notationally confusing, over-simplification. In particular, the descriptions of the simple collision theory of chemical reactions and reaction could have been improved, without being much longer or much more sophisticated. Nevertheless, these are small blemishes in a well-produced and clear account of the foundations of physical chemistry. It is unfortunate that the use of centimetre, gramme, second units may discourage its potential British readership. Certainly, the provision of an appendix, which makes no explicit mention of SI units but provides, for example, the factor for converting United States gallons to litres, is the one eccentric feature of a readable introduction to physical chemistry at university level.

Ian W. M. Smith

## Reviewers

Peter Barnes is research officer in the child development research unit at the University of Nottingham; Mauricio Cossand, professor of the history of science at the University of Kent; Ian Fleming is author of *Chemistry in the Language of Historical Sciences*; R. N. Dixon is author of *Spectroscopy and Structure* and is professor of chemistry at the University of Bristol; B. T. Donovan, professor of neuro-physiology at the Institute of Psychiatry; Robert Foulke is professor of English at Skidmore College, New York;

Martin Hollis, senior lecturer in philosophy at the University of East Anglia is author of *Models of Man*; H. C. G. Mathew, fellow of Christ Church College Oxford, is author of *The Liberal Imperialists* and editor of *The Gladstone Diaries*; Sinclair Rogers, head of the department of communications at Ulster College, the Northern Ireland Polytechnic, is author of *They Don't Speak Our Language*; Ian W. M. Smith is lecturer in physical chemistry at the University of Cambridge; Peter Sykes is official fellow and director of studies in chemistry at Christ's College Cambridge.

## On concepts

Elements of Quantum Mechanics by Frank J. Darakoff Addison-Wesley, £14.00 ISBN 0 201 00799 1

This is the second edition of a first published in 1968, which was not previously featured in this column. The author's intention is to be a text for chemists to use in the laboratory, using the wave approach. The first edition of the book covers the principles and techniques of quantum mechanics, the wave approach, the Heisenberg uncertainty principle, the Schrodinger equation, complex atoms, one electron atoms, one electron molecules, and a discussion of molecular orbitals. The book is written in the same ground as Feynman's classic text.

So far as the student in chemistry is concerned, the book is limited in scope, however, in that it does not deal with the more difficult parts of the subject area, both experimental and technical. The only real advantage of this book is that it is written in a clear, readable style, and is accompanied by solutions to the problems. It is a book which no student of chemistry should be without.

Alan Cox

## Educational Number

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# BOOKS

## Anthropology's mission

Claude Lévi-Strauss, *Structural Anthropology*, volume two translated by Monique Layton Allen Lane, £5.50 ISBN 0 7131 1021 6

Beneath the many and by now familiar paradoxes which for some enlighten and for others betray the enterprise of structural anthropology, two seem fundamental. The first derives from the Rousseauian notion that while the study of observation that while the study of man must be carried on close to hand among one's immediate fellows, the study of man must be undertaken at a distance. The second follows. We study other cultures, the more strange, the more distant in both time and space the better, above all in order to learn about ourselves. For Lévi-Strauss anthropology is a distant mirror in which we find, eyes screwed up and after much effort, a reflection of ourselves. It is not so much of the possibilities inherent in the recognition of a common humanity.

This collection of essays, the second volume of *Structural Anthropology*, brings together a number of papers written by Lévi-Strauss over the last 25 years. Among these many have not previously been available in translation, others were written in English but have been buried in fairly obscure journals and two, *The Science of Anthropology* and *The Story of Aspidochelone*, have already had wide currency in English editions. In the volume as a whole it is perhaps the assertion of anthropology's mission which generates most interest, leading to a lament for a passing world, a critique of the developing one and above all to a demand for a science of man, modelled on the achievements of linguistics but firmly grounded in the interpretation and analysis of ethnographic data.

It is in this latter demand, significantly, that structural anthropology has collided most directly with its opposite number in the Anglo-Saxon tradition. It was all very well as long as Lévi-Strauss insisted that he was a philosopher, not a mythmaker (as he does in *The Raw and the Cooked*) but once he laid claim to science then that, very properly, was a different matter. The problem, however, is not even so simple because clearly Lévi-Strauss is not claiming to be just one of these, but to be all three.

His science is aesthetic.

Roger Silverstone

## Land in the tropics

Tropical Soils and Soil Survey by Anthony Young Cambridge University Press, £15.00 ISBN 0 521 21054 2

The human population of the tropical lands is increasing rapidly each year and the need for agricultural and forest production comes ever more pressing. The increased production is achieved by exploiting virgin lands through the application of new techniques and crops. There is the danger that the soil, a key factor in production, will become degraded or even lost through erosion and pollution to farmer and consumer. It is therefore essential to know more about the soil and how to overcome the present limitations imposed by present techniques.

Our knowledge of tropical soils has advanced significantly only in the past 20 years and this advance should be imparted to the conservation and proper use of this irreplaceable resource. The book, the latest in a series of such texts in appearance, Professor Young has used his broad knowledge of soils and other parts of the tropics to give his specific interest in the application of pedological knowledge to problems of land reclamation and agricultural improvement. His geographical training leads him to a deep understanding of the environmental context of soil. This broadly based approach can be recommended to those coming to the subject from other disciplines. The book is written for those

philosophical and mythical and equally, though more equivocal, art, philosophy and myth are science. The clue to the riddle lies, really enough, in the word 'mission'. In a basic distinction between the natural and the human sciences, though like any riddle the answer is never without ambiguity. Man has always been thinking equally well. The science of which we are so proud, and rightly so in Lévi-Strauss's view, is the product of a more or less continuous development not so much in man's actual capacity to think, to distinguish and to order his world, but in his inclusion of more and more of that world in his thought. The myths and rituals, the analysis of some of which takes up the most interesting part of this book, reveal above all that man is fundamentally a rational being. The science of man (the human sciences) differs in essence from the myth of man not at all; neither can be falsified and our judgments of both are dependent not so much on our measurement of them against the facts but on their clarity, their coherence and their ability to speak eloquently of that which otherwise would go unspoken.

As Lévi-Strauss writes in his preface: 'Structuralism uncovers a unity and a coherence within things which are revealed by a simple description of the facts somehow scattered and disorganized before the eyes of knowledge. . . . But structuralism does not presume to contain the truth. It is content to say that things are as they appear today than they were yesterday. It is not a matter of whether this is an overly modest claim about man's capacity to know or too arrogant demand for the only correct path is precisely the point. It is, of course, to be both grounded in the past and to be a logician in the analysis of kinship, myth and ritual since like crystals, clearly formed structures, testimony to the capacity of man, including Lévi-Strauss, to make sense of a senseless world and to restore to it a sense of order. It is beneath the manifest diversity of cultures—discontinuous and apparently incommensurable—conditions can be found for genuine communication and understanding.

Whatever our final judgment of the merits of his science it can never be said that either is ever dull.

# BOOKS

## The quality of human life

Geography and Inequality by H. E. Coates, H. J. Johnston and P. H. Knox Oxford University Press, £6.50 and £3.95 ISBN 0 19 874070 0 and 874069 7

Human Geography: A Welfare Approach by David M. Smith Edward Arnold, £9.95 and £4.50 ISBN 0 7131 5923 3 and 5925 1

For some time the terms "counter-revolution", "relevance" and "radical geography" have coloured geographical thinking. Change engenders change and it was almost predictable that the "quantitative revolution" would quietly take its place in the history of the development of the discipline, reduced to its proper dimensions, trimmed of excesses but nevertheless marking a new level of intellectual effort, not to say academic respectability. Once subsumed, the new way of thinking—to some at least—seemed a woefully inadequate way to deal with the world's ills. In studies of cities, for example, compilation of countless data resulting in most elegant models seemed remote from problems of inner city deprivation. But the micro fact that social ills vary spatially was a challenge to the geographical imagination.

The examination of this variable in man's condition has attracted increasing numbers of geographers coinciding with the seemingly counter-scientific philosophy that the social sciences can no longer pretend to be free from value judgments. Attention is focused on what is deemed relevant, research entails commitment, the measuring rod is "what should be" not "what is". To some this new "revolution" has a capital R, and it seems surprising that it is not more widely interpreted. To others it is a welcome descent from the ivory towers, and merely an extension of the interest which many geographers have always had in "applying" the

replace the traditional centre of human geographical thought; the region: just as previously many aspects of geographical work were thought of as inputs in a holistic regional concept, so they could now contribute to the condition of man. The new way is human geography, and "this kind of restructuring is essential for problem oriented research."

Smith disclaims political bias. His is not an activist position implying dedication to a particular political ideology. . . . More that if human beings are the subject of our curiosity in human geography, then the quality of their lives becomes of paramount importance. Nevertheless his approach is quite explicitly based on welfare economics and one must accept the dominance of supply and demand, market equilibria and optimalities. The student is extremely well guided through this field as Smith builds up his theoretical framework in the first part of the book. The second part is also largely theoretical, bringing in the questions of what is "better" or "best" and dealing with concepts of equality, justice and value judgement. Part three moves on to reality in a series of excellent case studies. Here there is some overlap with *Geography and Inequality*, for again the same areas are dealt with, but most cases are the outcome of the author's previous work.

The balance of the book does not necessarily mean that the theory is necessarily wrong, rather that it is essential to explore it thoroughly because it is so central to the thesis, but the theory does make one sense of the descriptive. It is consistent and well argued and persuasive. The summing up on human welfare geography is very convincing. This is a big and important book. Although it could be argued that welfare economics may be limiting as well as illuminative, Smith has used these concepts to justify a rethinking of human geography as a whole, a rethinking which is as important to the subject's future as to its ability to handle problems and policies of spatial differentiation in quality of life.

Emrys Jones

## Demography and spatial analysis

Population: Analysis and Models by Louis Henry Edward Arnold, £9.95 and £4.95 ISBN 0 7131 5858 9 and 5869 7

Although they are not numerous, British demographers have a long tradition and a justifiably high reputation for research. For example, the journal of demography *Population Studies* maintains a very high standard and attracts a wide international authorship (only two of the 15 contributors to the latest issue are working in Britain). On the other hand, the impact of demography as a discipline on higher education in Britain is small, whether one considers numbers of departments, chairs, courses, students or even textbooks. A nation which has generated many contributions, but to little avail.

In contrast, the multidisciplinary field of population studies has expanded and diffused so that students taking subjects as varied as agriculture and anthropology, geography and genetics, politics and demography, often learn something about population. In some cases this is a response to increased awareness of the significance of changing population growth and mobility, not only in developing countries but in developed ones as well. Certainly the literature of population studies has proliferated much more than that of demography, but the demand for basic texts in demography has also grown. One of the best of these is *Population: Analysis and Models* by Louis Henry, which has been translated into many other languages. The brevity of Henry's book will appeal to many students,

but the two volumes do not overlap entirely and expand on different aspects. Certainly, this translation is a very welcome addition to the literature and will probably become popular.

Although the title of the volume by Rees and Wilson is not very dissimilar from that of Henry, the content is quite different. Like most demographers, Henry says hardly anything about spatial patterns (incidentally, his only map is a cartographic disaster or spatial analysis of population. But those expecting a conventional volume of population geography are in for a surprise, for Rees and Wilson, two geographers at the University of Leeds, have written an extensive research monograph on a rather new aspect of spatial population analysis known as spatial demographic accounting; it focuses upon the population sub-model of urban and regional models systems, a broader research field in which the authors and their colleagues at Leeds have made substantial advances. In particular, they build population models for multi-regional systems within which migratory moves are specifically represented—and migration is another aspect of population analysis somewhat neglected by demographers.

Population accounts modelling has only a few older exponents, notably Richard Stone and Andrew Rogers, and as yet not many exponents (hence the price). This research area represents an integration between spatial analysis and demography, but the undoubted innovations have yet to diffuse widely into these two disciplines. The authors deal mainly with theoretical concepts rather than practical analysis, but this book should justify their hopes by serving as a text for those concerned with the practical realities of population dynamics.

John I. Clarke





